

Alice
IN THE
COUNTRY OF
Hearts

THE CLOCKMAKER'S STORY

TOM

STORY: QuinRose
ART: Mamenosuke Fujimaru

SINCE I
HAVEN'T
MADE
DESSERTS
IN
FOREVER...

NICE!

THESE
CAME OUT
BETTER
THAN I
EXPECTED.

HM.

BUT I
THINK I
MADE
TOO
MANY.

I FIGURED
I SHOULD
DO IT FOR
SOMEONE
I CARE
ABOUT.

I
THOUGHT
I DID A
PRETTY
GOOD
JOB THIS
TIME.

THAT'S
IT?

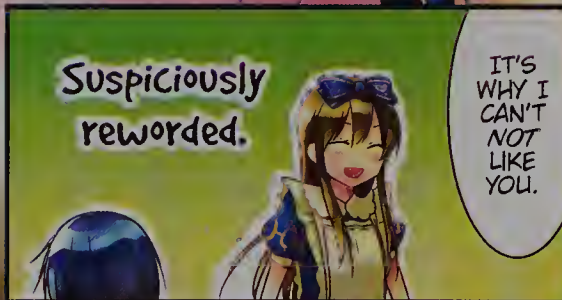
AT LEAST
SUGAR'S
GOOD
FOR YOU
WHEN
YOU'RE
TIRED.

HOW
ARE
THEY?

NOT
BAD.



IT'S
WHY I
LIKE
YOU,
JULIUS.



Suspiciously
reworded.

IT'S
WHY I
CAN'T
NOT
LIKE
YOU.

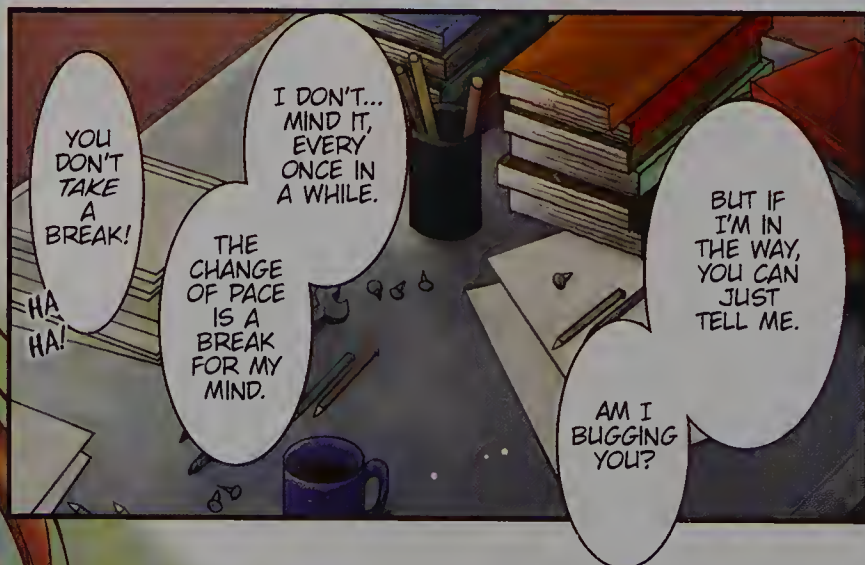


...



ANYWAY,
I'M
HEADING
OUT!

MM.



YOU
DON'T
TAKE
A
BREAK!

HA
HA!

THE
CHANGE
OF PACE
IS A
BREAK
FOR MY
MIND.

I DON'T...
MIND IT,
EVERY
ONCE IN
A WHILE.

BUT IF
I'M IN
THE WAY,
YOU CAN
JUST
TELL ME.

AM I
BUGGING
YOU?



SO I
GAVE HIM
SOME.
HE GOT
YOUR
EXTRAS.

AND ON
MY WAY
HERE,
I BUMPED
INTO
BORIS.

I MADE
TOO
MANY...

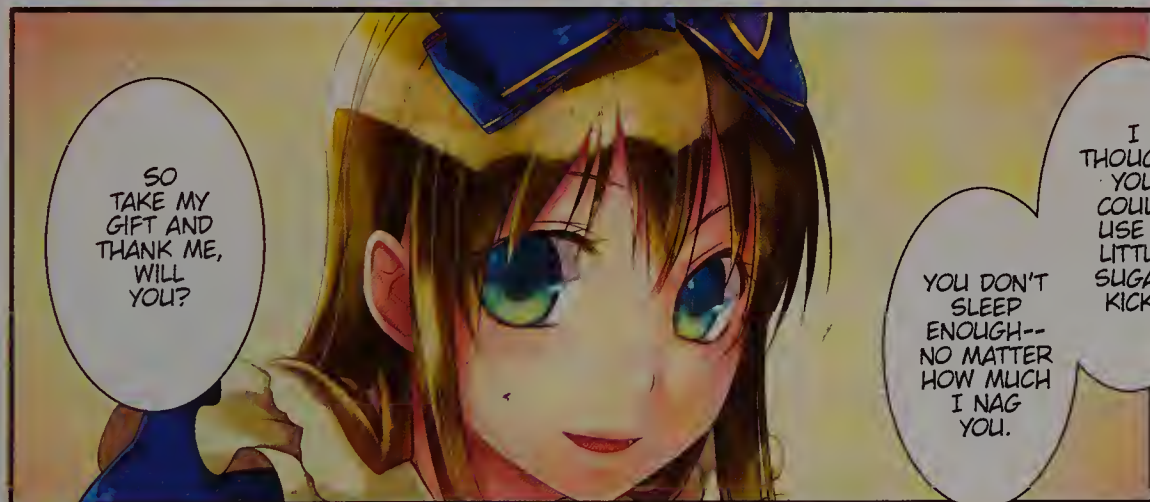
I DID
NOT!



THEN YOU
BROUGHT
ME YOUR
EXTRAS.



BORIS
SAID
THEY
WERE
DELICIOUS.



SO
TAKE MY
GIFT AND
THANK ME,
WILL
YOU?

YOU DON'T
SLEEP
ENOUGH--
NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
I NAG
YOU.

I
THOUGHT
YOU
COULD
USE A
LITTLE
SUGAR
KICK.



YOU
THROW
EVERYTHING
YOU'VE
GOT INTO
YOUR
WORK.
IT'S...
COOL.

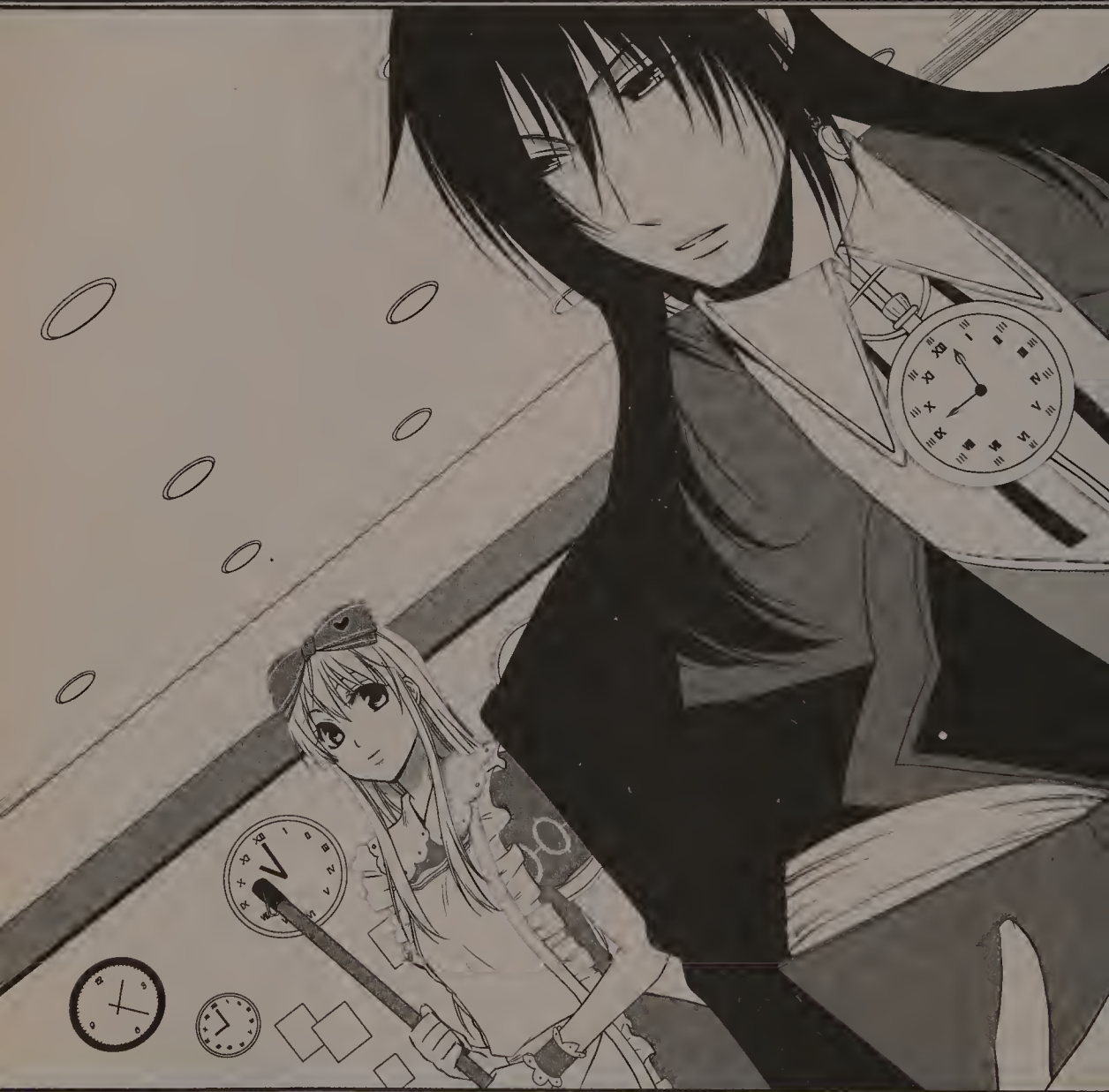


I
WON'T
ARGUE
WITH
THAT,
BUT...

YOU
WON'T?

WHY ARE
YOU SO
CONCERNED
WITH MY
WELL-
BEING?
I'M A
BORING
MAN.

Alice in the Country of Hearts ~The Clockmaker's Story~



Mamenosuke Fujimaru

藤丸 豆ノ介



IT JUST
SLIPPED
OUT!
IT WAS
AN
ACCIDENT!!

I
CAN'T
BELIEVE
I SAID
THAT.

"THAT'S
WHY I
LIKE YOU,
JULIUS."



TRAVELING
FROM THE
DISTANT
HEART
CASTLE
JUST TO
VISIT THE
CLOCK
TOWER.

AND
GIVING
THE
GIFT OF
SWEETS...

WORRIED
ABOUT
USING
THE
WORD
"LIKE."

AND IT
DIDN'T
SEEM TO
BOther
HIM
EITHER.

BUT HE
DIDN'T
ARGUE IT
OR ASK
ME TO
CLARIFY...



AND
SO IS
HE.

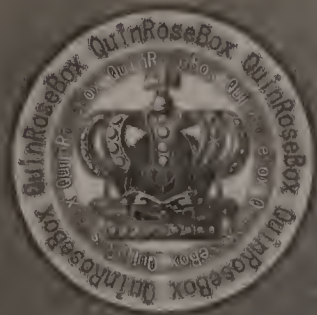
"LIKE"
?

HNN.

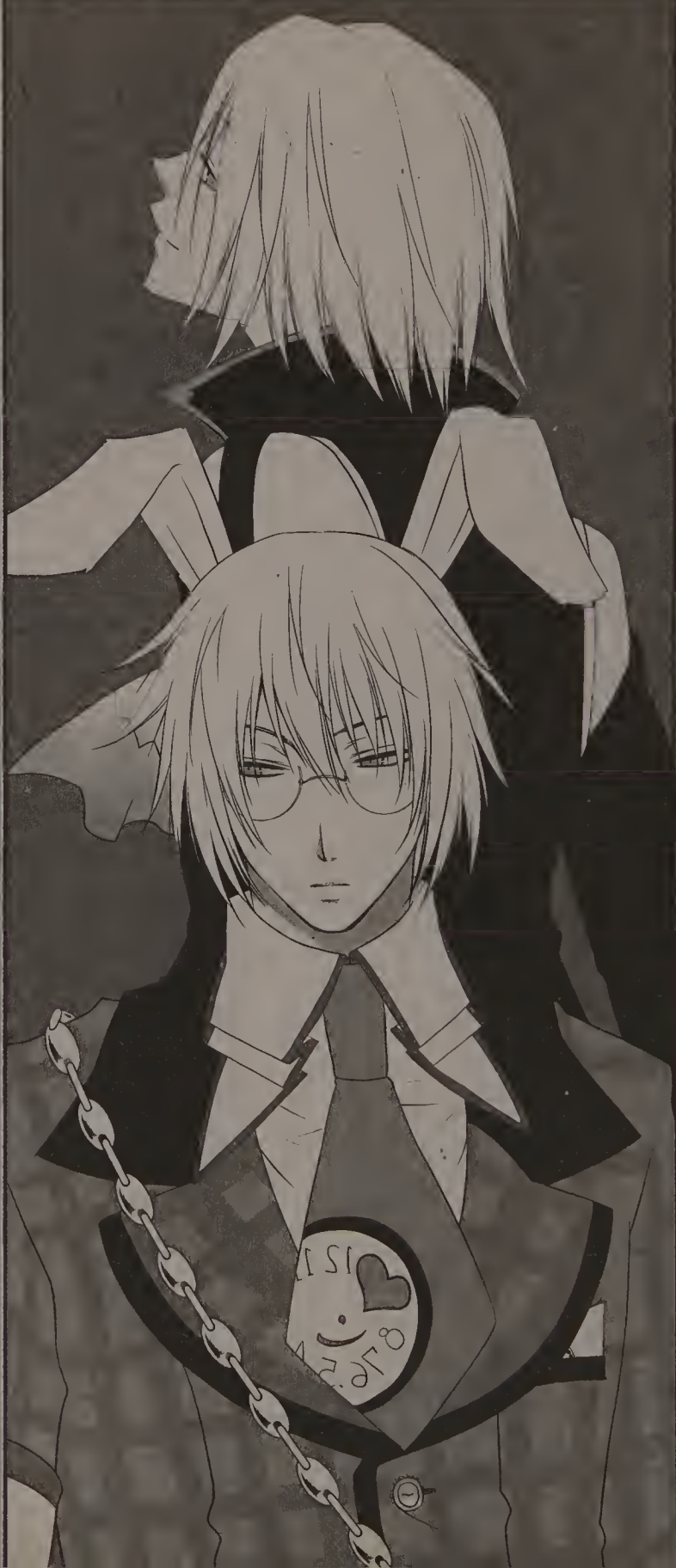
...



ALICE IS
IN DEEP,
EVEN IF
SHE
DOESN'T
REALIZE
IT YET.



QuinRoseBox



QuinRoseBox

Alice IN THE COUNTRY OF Hearts

THE CLOCKMAKER'S STORY



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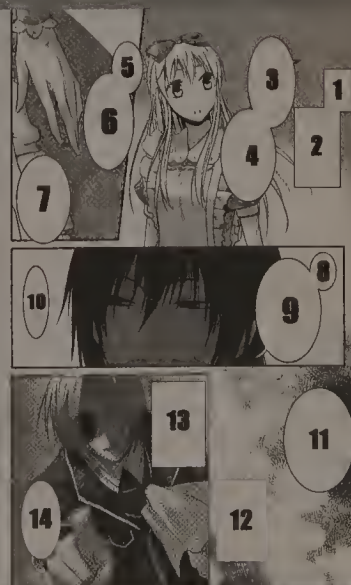
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



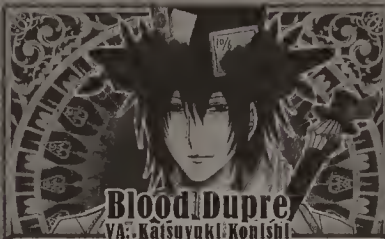
Alice in Country of Hearts

Character Information



Elliot March
VA: Tsuguo Mogami

The No. 2 of the Hatter Family and Blood's right-hand man, Elliot is an ex-criminal and an escaped convict. Very short-tempered, he used to be a "very bad guy" who shot before asking questions. After partnering up with Blood, he rounded out and changed to a "slightly bad guy" who thinks for about three seconds before shooting. In his mind, this is a vast improvement.



Blood Dupre
VA: Katsuyuki Konishi

The dangerous leader of the crime syndicate known as the Hatter Family. Since he enjoys picking more than working directly, he controls everything from the shadows. He's incredibly smart, but due to his temperamental moods and his desire to keep things "interesting," he often digs his own grave in his secret plans.



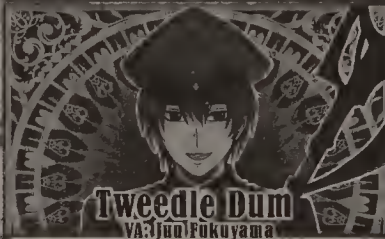
Alice Liddell
VA: Rie Kugimiyama

She grew up to be a responsible young woman after losing her mother early, but Alice still carries a complex toward her older sister. She respects her older sister very much, but is frustrated about always being compared to her. Since her first love fell for her older sister, she has no confidence in herself when it comes to romance.



Vivaldi
VA: Yuuko Kaida

Ruthless and cruel, the Queen of Hearts is an arrogant beauty with a wild temper. She's enemies with the Hatter and Gowland. Impatient at heart, Vivaldi takes her fury out on everyone around her, including her subordinates, whom she considers pawns. Anyone not working for her doesn't even register as existing.



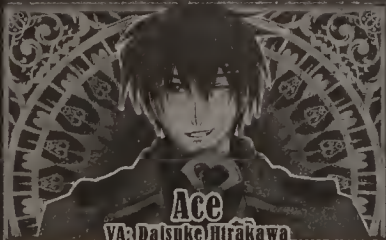
Tweedle Dum
VA: Jun Fukuyama

The second "Bloody Twin" and a dead ringer for his brother—in both appearance and personality. As they often change places, it's uncertain which one is the older twin.



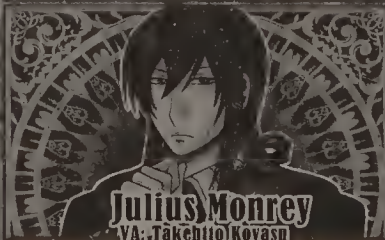
Tweedle Dee
VA: Jun Fukuyama

Gatekeeper of the Hatter territory, and one of the dark, sneaky twins. They sometimes show an innocent side, but they usually have a malicious agenda. Also known as the "Bloody Twins" due to their unsavory activities.



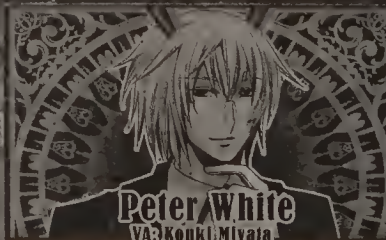
Ace
VA: Daisuke Hirasaka

The knight of Hearts and the ex-subordinate of Vivaldi. He's left the castle and is currently wandering. He's a very unlucky and unfortunate man, yet he remains strangely positive, thus he tends to plow forward and make mistakes that only worsen his situation. He's one of the few friends of the clockmaker, Julius.



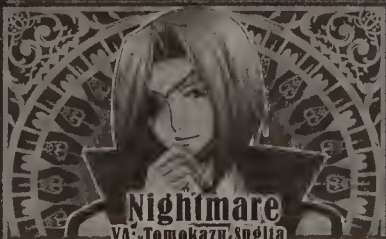
Julius Monrey
VA: Takehito Koyasu

The clockmaker, a gloomy machine expert who easily falls into depression. He lives in the Clock Tower and doesn't get out much. He always thinks of everything in the most negative way and tends to distrust people, but he gets along with Ace. He had some part in the imprisonment of the March Hare, Elliot, and is thus the target of Elliot's hatred.



Peter White
VA: Kouki Miyata

Don't be fooled by the cute ears—Peter is the dangerous guide who dragged Alice to Wonderland in the first place. He claims to always be worried about the time, despite having a strange grasp on it. Rumors say his heart is as black as his hair is white.



Nightmare
VA: Tomokazu Sugita

A sickly nightmare. He appears in Alice's dream, sometimes to guide her—and other times, to misguide her.



Mary Gowland
VA: Kenyuu Horiuchi

The owner of the Amusement Park. He hides his hated first name, Mary, but pretty much everyone already knows it. His full name is a play on words that sounds like "Merry Go Round" when said quickly. If his musical talent was given a numerical value, it would be closer to negatives than zero.



Boris Alray
VA: Horiuchi Kenyuu

A riddle-loving cat with a signature smirk. He sometimes gives hints to his riddles, but the hints usually just cause more confusion. He also has a tendency to pose questions and never answer them.



- STORY -

This is a love adventure game. It is based on *Alice in Wonderland*, but evolves into a completely different story.

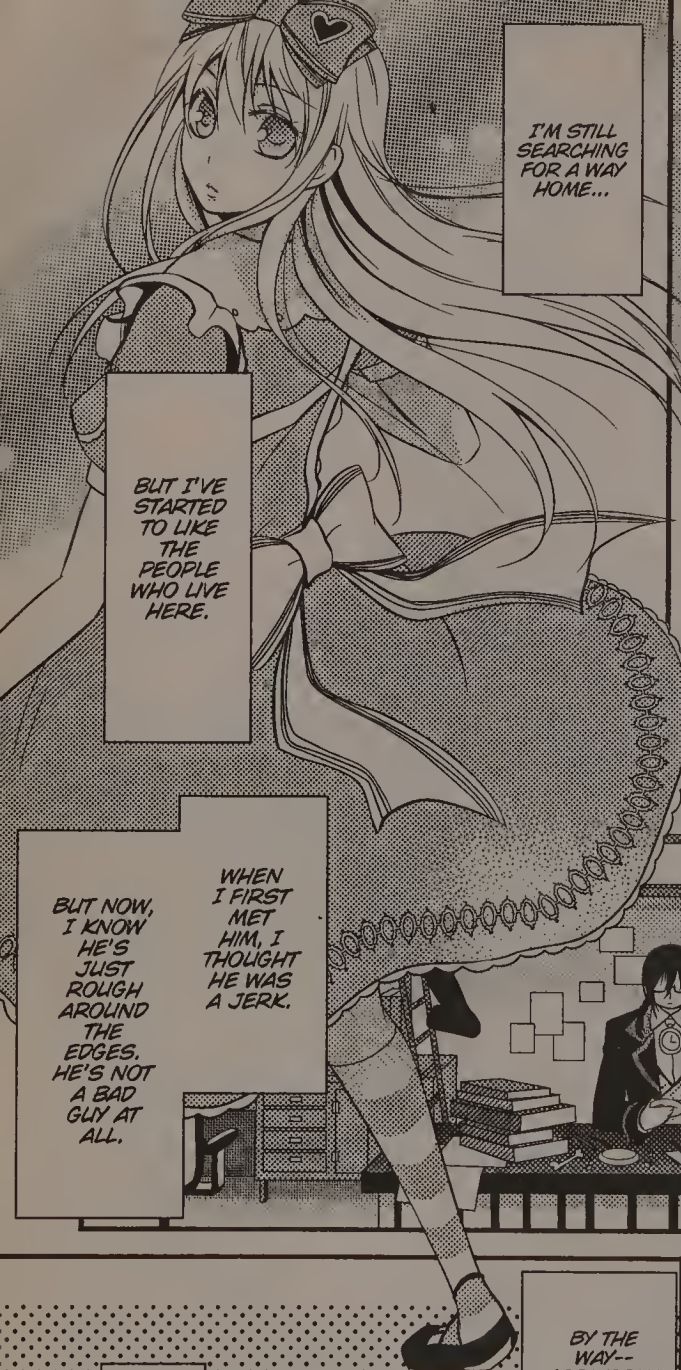
The main character is far from a romantic. In fact, she's especially sick of love relationships.

She's pulled (against her will) into the dangerous Country of Hearts, which is not as peaceful as the name makes it sound. The Hatters are a mafia family, and even the employees of the Amusement Park carry weapons.

The leaders of the three domains are constantly trying to kill each other. Many of the skirmishes are the result of territory grabs by three major powers trying to control more land: the Hatter, the Queen of Hearts, and Gowland.

After drinking some strange medicine (again, against her will), the main character is unable to return to her world. She quickly decides that she's trapped in a dream and allows herself to enjoy(?) the extraordinary experience she's been thrown into.

What territory will she stay with and who will she interact with to get herself home?
And will this girl, so jaded about love, fall into a relationship she doesn't expect?



I'M STILL SEARCHING FOR A WAY HOME...

BUT I'VE STARTED TO LIKE THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE.

BUT NOW, I KNOW HE'S JUST ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES. HE'S NOT A BAD GUY AT ALL.

WHEN I FIRST MET HIM, I THOUGHT HE WAS A JERK.

EVEN THE FLOW OF TIME IS BONKERS.



"YOU CAN JUST REPLACE A FACELESS."

"NOT THAT WE'RE A LOT DIFFERENT."

BUT IT WAS JUST EVENING!

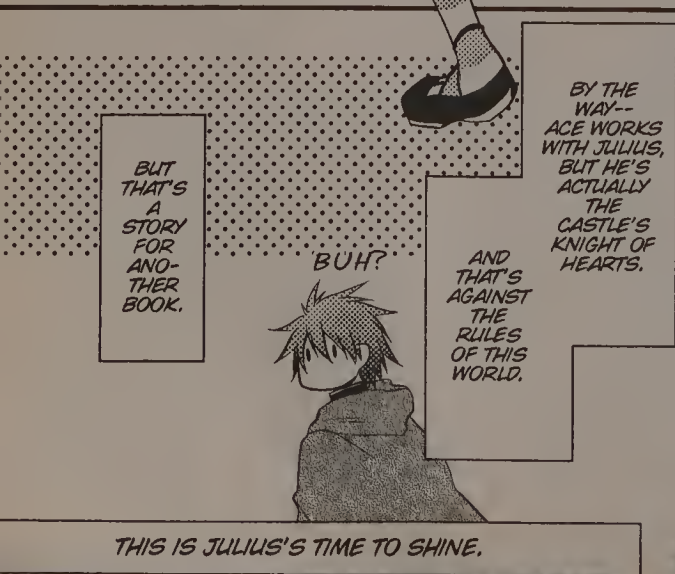
COOL-- IT'S DAYTIME AGAIN.



COMMON SENSE DOESN'T WORK IN WONDERLAND.



TAKE JULIUS, FOR INSTANCE.



BUT THAT'S A STORY FOR ANOTHER BOOK.

BUH?

BY THE WAY-- ACE WORKS WITH JULIUS, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY THE CASTLE'S KNIGHT OF HEARTS.

AND THAT'S AGAINST THE RULES OF THIS WORLD.

THIS PLACE IS CRAZY.

BUT IT'S MY LIFE, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.

THIS IS JULIUS'S TIME TO SHINE.

An introduction to the world of Alice

AFTER
FORCING
ME TO
DRINK THE
MEDICINE
OF HEART
THROUGH
HORRIBLE
MOUTH-
TO-MOUTH,
HE
ABANDONED
ME IN THE
CLOCK
TOWER.

MY NAME
IS ALICE
LIDDELL,
AND I WAS
KIDNAPPED
TO THE
COUNTRY
OF
HEARTS...

...BY
PETER,
THE
WHITE
RABBIT.

I WAS
LOST
AND
SCARED
OUT OF
MY MIND.

HE WAS
COLD
AND
KINDA
MEAN...

GET
OUT.

SO
CRUEL!

BUT HE
EXPLAINED
WONDER-
LAND TO
ME.

IN
ORDER
TO FIND
A WAY
BACK
TO MY
OWN
WORLD...

I
FOLLOWED
PETER TO
HEART
CASTLE.

PETER
WAS NO
HELP, BIG
SURPRISE.
I THINK
I MENTIONED
THAT HE'S
HORRIBLE.

BUT I
DID END
UP
STAYING
AT THE
CASTLE.

THE
QUEEN
SEEMS
TO LIKE
ME.

MY
QUEEN
REMOVE
YOUR
HAND!
I
BROUGHT
HERE
TO THIS
LAND!

I MET
JULIUS
MONREY.
HE'S THE
MASTER
OF THE
CLOCK
TOWER.

BUT
THEN
...

IS
THIS A
DREAM?
OR
REALITY?
OR
SOME
SORT OF
ILLUSION...

000





QuinRoseBox



SHWIP
お
7
7

HOW
IRRITATING.

PERHAPS
I SHOULD
JUST
GET RID
OF YOU.

I
SHOULD
GET
OUT OF
HERE.

HA HA!
YOU'RE
TOO
GOOD
TO ME,
MAN.

LEARN
FROM
THIS,
YOU
LEECH!

I'M
SICK OF
GIVING
YOU THIS
SPEECH!

BLAST.
WHAT
IS IT
NOW?!

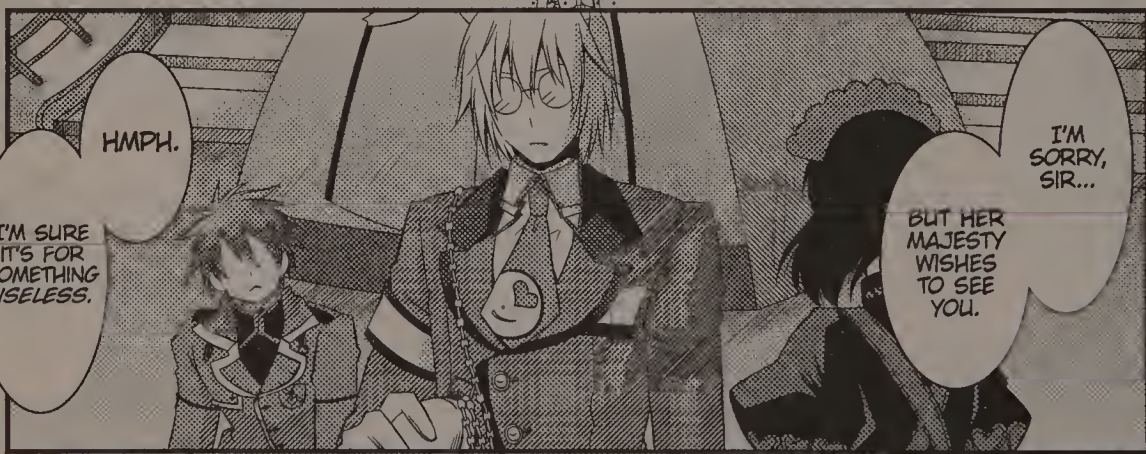
PRIME
MINISTER
WHITE?

BEFORE
THEY
DRAG
ME INTO
THIS.

HE GOT
LOST
AGAIN?

ON
HIS
HOME
TURF.

WOW.



HMPH.

I'M SURE
IT'S FOR
SOMETHING
USELESS.

I'M
SORRY,
SIR...

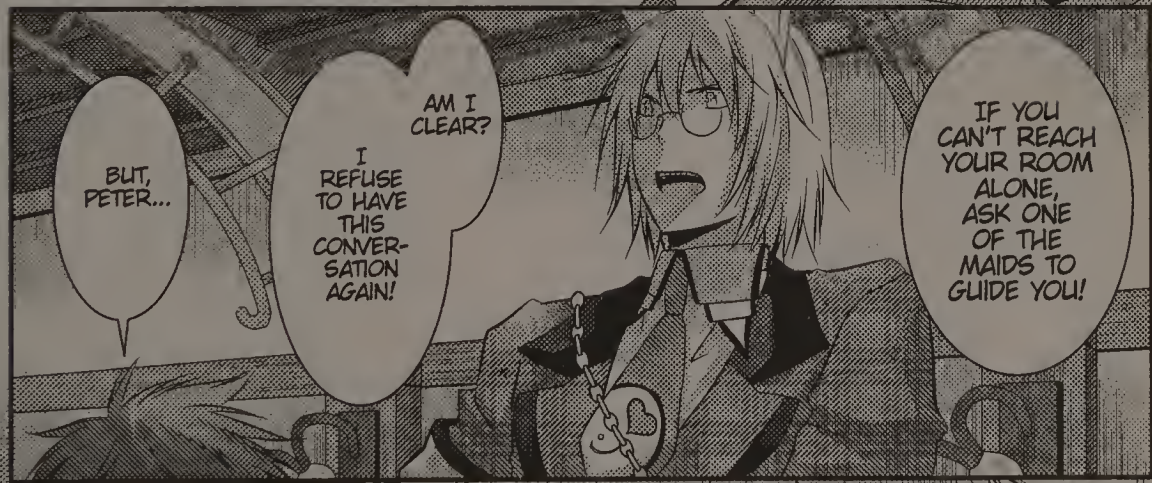
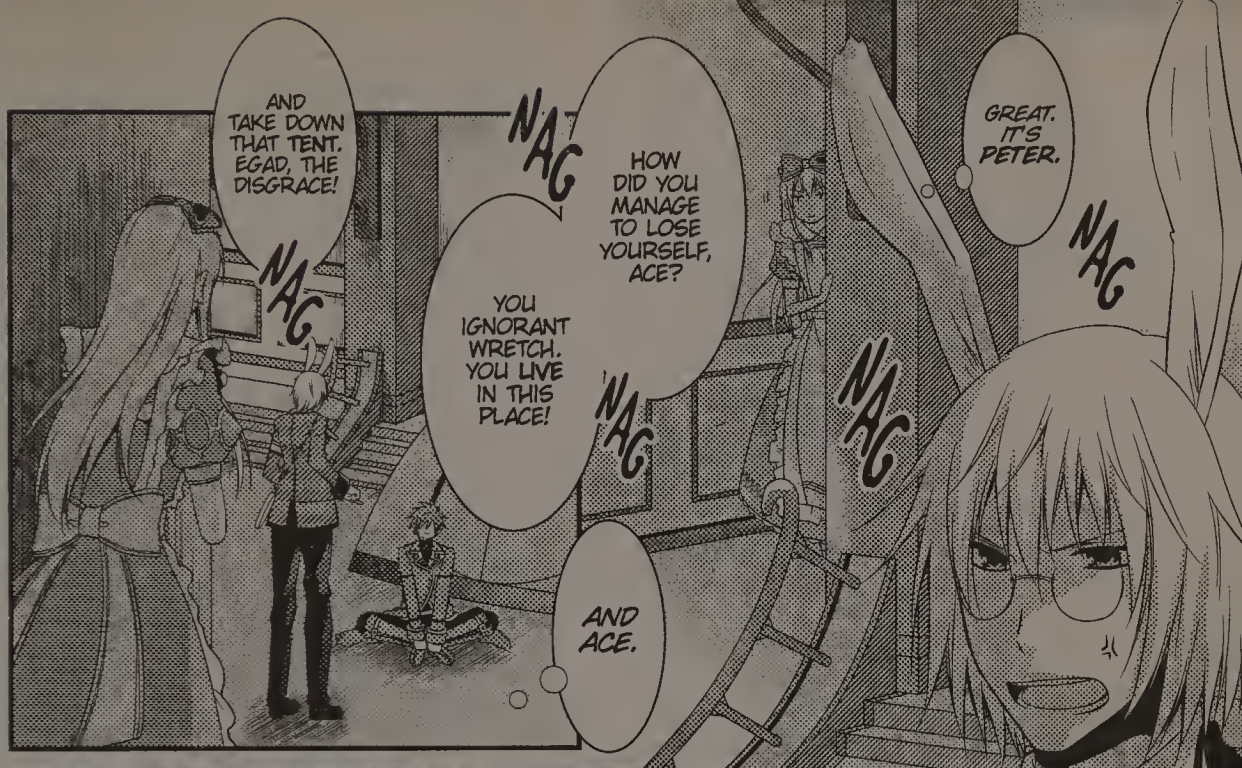
BUT HER
MAJESTY
WISHES
TO SEE
YOU.



...IF I
CLAIM I
NEVER
HEARD
IT.

...

I CAN
AVOID HER
SUMMONS...





NO!
WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO SAY, ACE,
YOU CAN
SAY FROM
OVER
THERE.

PETER'S A
BIIG FAN
OF YOU,
ALICE.

ALICE,
MY
SWEET.

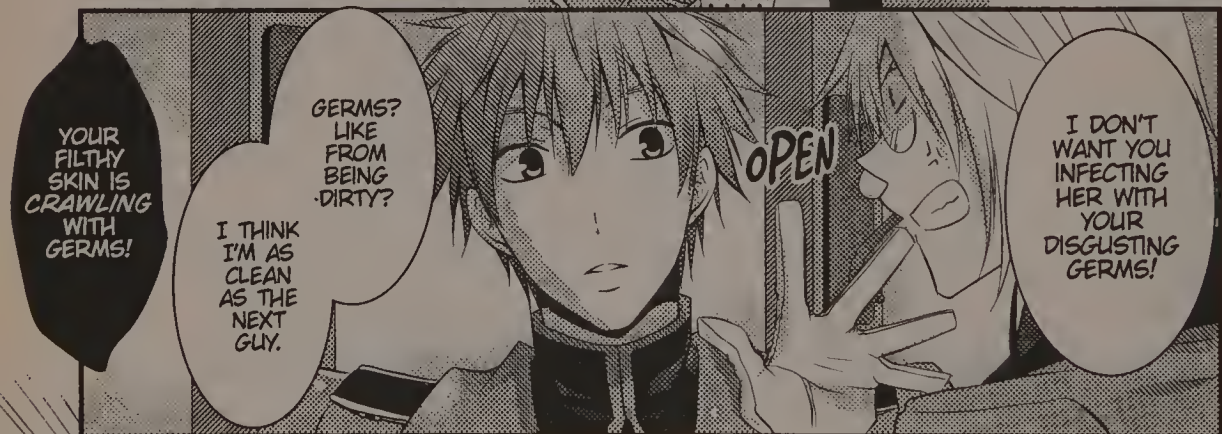
SQUEEZE

I WOULD
LOVE
FOR YOU
TO VISIT
MY ROOM
FROM
TIME TO
TIME.

SORRY
FOR
THE
TROUBLE!

NEVER.
LET
GO.

FWD



YOUR
FILTHY
SKIN IS
CRAWLING
WITH
GERMS!

GERMS?
LIKE
FROM
BEING
DIRTY?

I THINK
I'M AS
CLEAN
AS THE
NEXT
GUY.

I DON'T
WANT YOU
INFECTING
HER WITH
YOUR
DISGUSTING
GERMS!

OPEN



UNHAND
HER AT
ONCE!

SHE'LL
CATCH
YOUR
IDIOT!

BANG
BANG
BANG

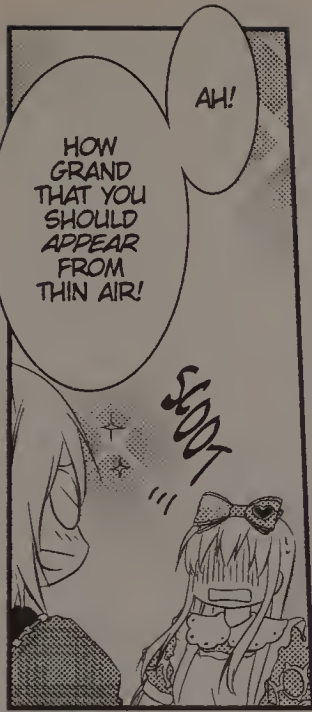
AH!

I JUST
TOLD
YOU
NOT TO
TOUCH
HER!

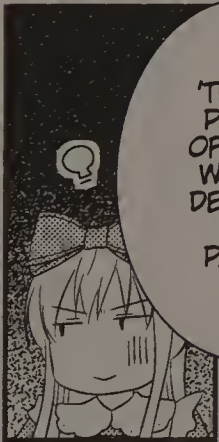
BUT I'VE
GOT MY
OWN
INTEREST
IN ALICE,
PETER.

YOU CAN'T
HOG THE
ONLY
OUTSIDER
WE'VE
GOT.

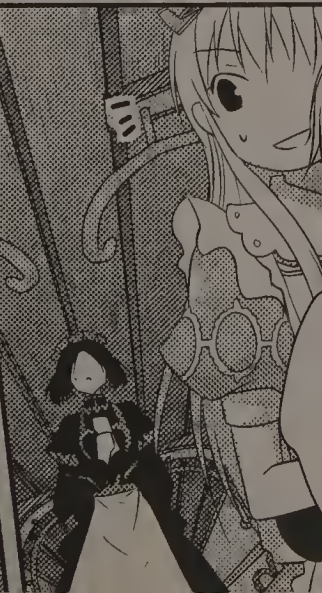
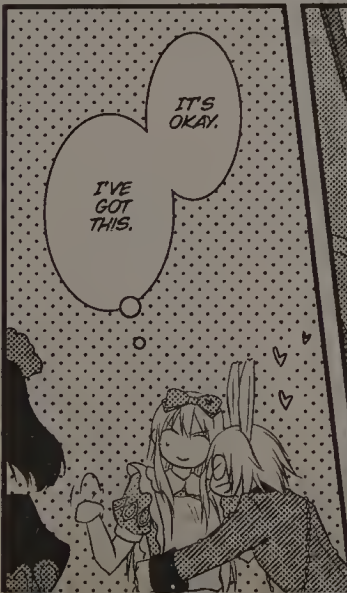
PAT



CRAP.
NOW I'VE DONE IT.



'TIS THE POWER OF LOVE. WE ARE DESTINED TO PAIR....!



SIGH.

IT'S
TOUGH
LIVING IN
A PLACE
SO RIDIC-
ULOUS.

HE
DODGES MY
QUESTIONS.
HE NEVER
EXPLAINS
ANYTHING!

I THOUGHT
I COULD
FIND MY
WAY HOME
IF I
FORCED IT
OUT OF
PETER,
BUT...

I ONLY
CAME
HERE...

BECAUSE
PETER
GRABBED
ME IN MY
WORLD AND
DRAGGED
ME DOWN
A RABBIT
HOLE.

I'M AN
OUTSIDER,
SO I DON'T
REALLY GET
ALL THE
FIGHTING.

BUT EVEN
THOUGH I
WANNA GO
BACK TO
MY
WORLD...

I'M
STARTING
TO GET
USED TO
THIS
PLACE,
TOO.

CRAP--
I WAS
SUPPOSED
TO SEND
PETER TO
VIVALDI!!
I'M
SORRY
MISSMAID.

MAYBE I
SHOULD
GIVE UP ON
HIM AND
LOOK FOR
ANOTHER
WAY.

JUST
SEEING A
GUN USED
TO FREAK
ME OUT.

I'VE
COME A
LONG
WAY, FOR
BETTER
OR
WORSE.

I SHOULD GO.

Escape.

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND, WITH YOUR TRACK RECORD OF ACCIDENTAL MURDER!

CLANG

IT'S A WARNING SHOT, CHURL! I DON'T DARE HIT THE GIRL.

BANG

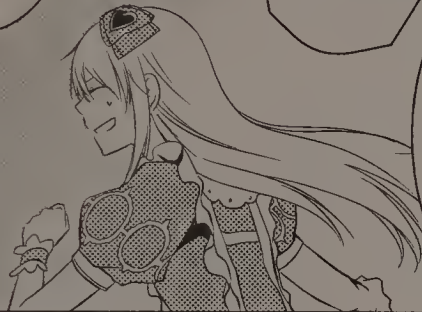
HA HA! WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU AIMING?

THAT DIDN'T COME CLOSE TO HITTING ME!

THAT'S WEIRDLY CAREFUL OF YOU.

BANG
BANG

WELCOME TO LIFE IN WONDERLAND.



I LIVE IN HEART CASTLE.

IT'S ONE OF THE DOMAINS IN THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS.

IT WAS A GOOD TRIP, THOUGH

YEAH, FIFTY FIFTY PERIODS LATE.

ALL OTHERS IN THIS WORLD OF NINE ARE LESS THAN PUTRID SCUM.

THE KNIGHT OF HEART CASTLE

Somehow

Somehow

THE PRIME MINISTER OF HEART CASTLE

MY ALICE MY LOVE + IS HE PERFECT PLUM!

SINCE THOSE TWO ARE TECHNICALLY ON THE SAME SIDE...

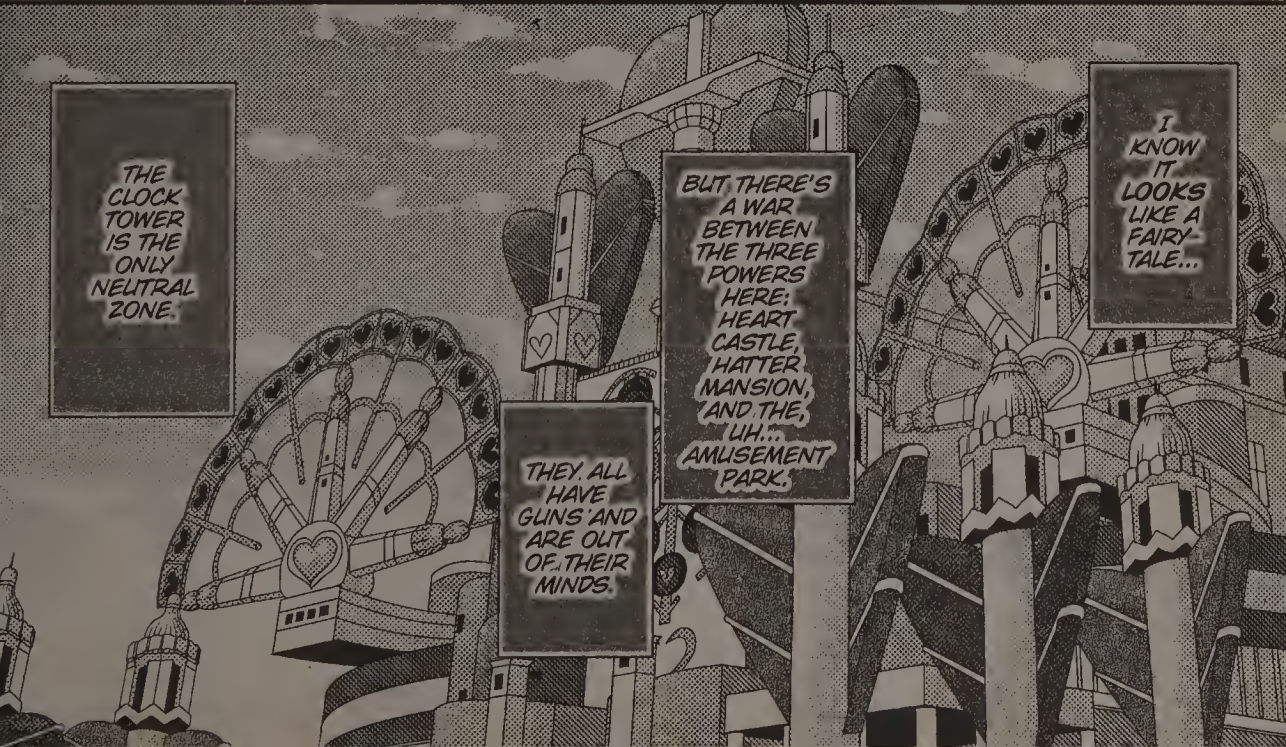
MAYBE THEY WON'T KILL EACH OTHER.

THE CLOCK TOWER IS THE ONLY NEUTRAL ZONE.

BUT, THERE'S A WAR BETWEEN THE THREE POWERS HERE: HEART CASTLE, HATTER MANSION, AND THE, UH... AMUSEMENT PARK.

THEY ALL HAVE GUNS AND ARE OUT OF THEIR MINDS.

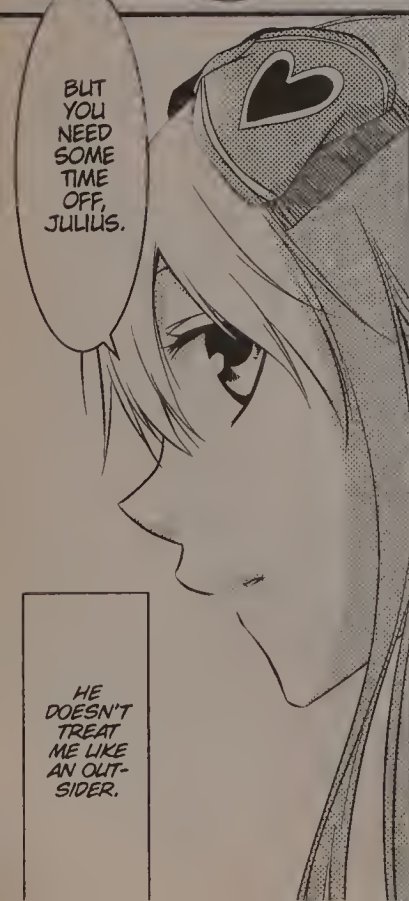
I KNOW IT LOOKS LIKE A FAIRY-TALE...





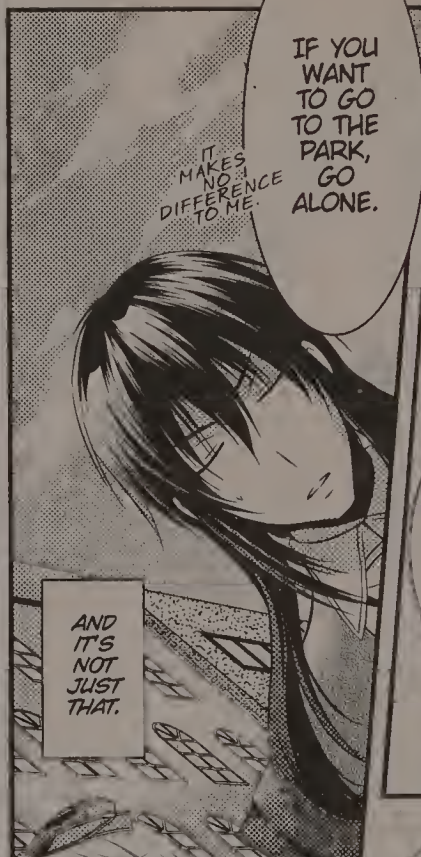
LOOK.

I DON'T HAVE TIME TO FROLIC AROUND WITH YOU.



BUT YOU NEED SOME TIME OFF, JULIUS.

HE DOESN'T TREAT ME LIKE AN OUTSIDER.



IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME.

IF YOU WANT TO GO TO THE PARK, GO ALONE.

AND IT'S NOT JUST THAT.



WHA?

GOING TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK ALONE IS THE SADDEST THING IN THE WORLD!



WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW?

HOME.

TO THE TOWER.

HE'S NOT EXACTLY FRIENDLY.

BUT...



TOO BAD.

IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.

HE'S THE MOST SANE PERSON IN WONDERLAND.

IF YOU WERE HEADING FOR THE AMUSEMENT PARK, I WANTED TO TAG ALONG.



JULIUS!

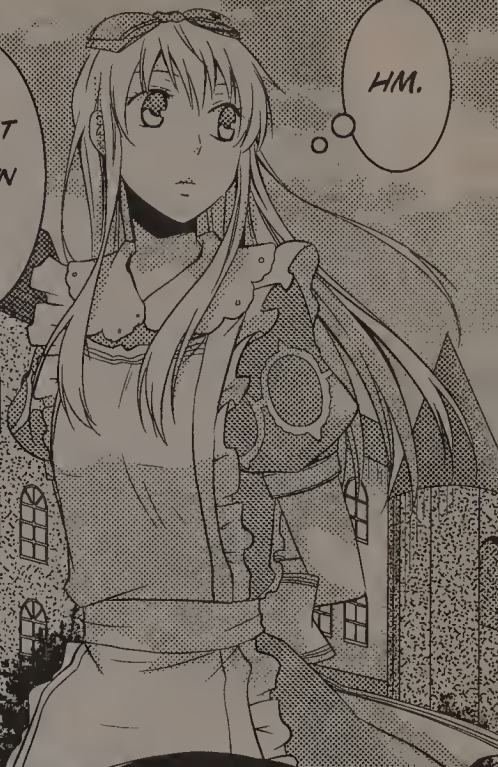
HUH?
HEY!



MAYBE
I NEED
A NEW
PERSPEC-
TIVE ON
HOW TO
GET HOME.

HAVEN'T
BEEN TO
TOWN
IN A
WHILE.

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

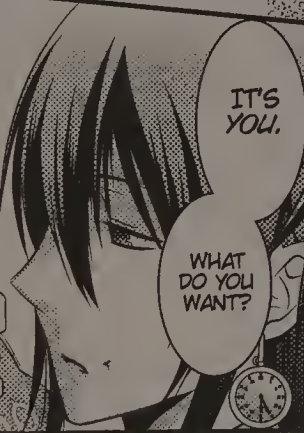


H.M.



NOTHING.

JUST
THOUGHT
I'D SAY
HI.

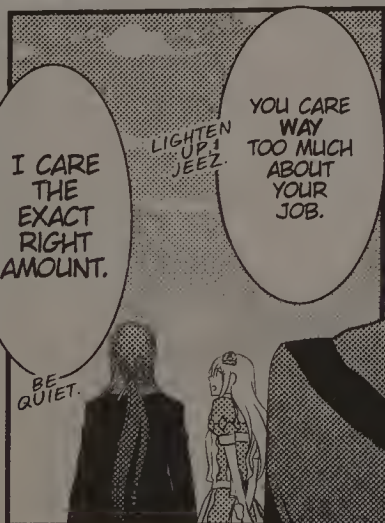


IT'S
YOU.

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?



HOW
ARE YOU
DOING
THESE
DAYS?



I CARE
THE
EXACT
RIGHT
AMOUNT.

LIGHTEN
UP!
JEEZ.

YOU CARE
WAY
TOO MUCH
ABOUT
YOUR
JOB.

BUT I
HAVE
TO BE.

MY
WORK
NEEDS
ME IN
GOOD
HEALTH.

FINE

JULIUS
MONREY.

HE'S
THE
LEADER
OF THE
CLOCK
TOWER.





AS
MUCH
AS I
HATE
IT...

I THINK
I HAVE
TO
PLAY.

OR THE
PATH TO
MY OWN
WORLD
MAY
NEVER
OPEN UP.

I'M
FILLING
THE VIAL,
BUT IT'S
GOING
REALLY
SLOW.

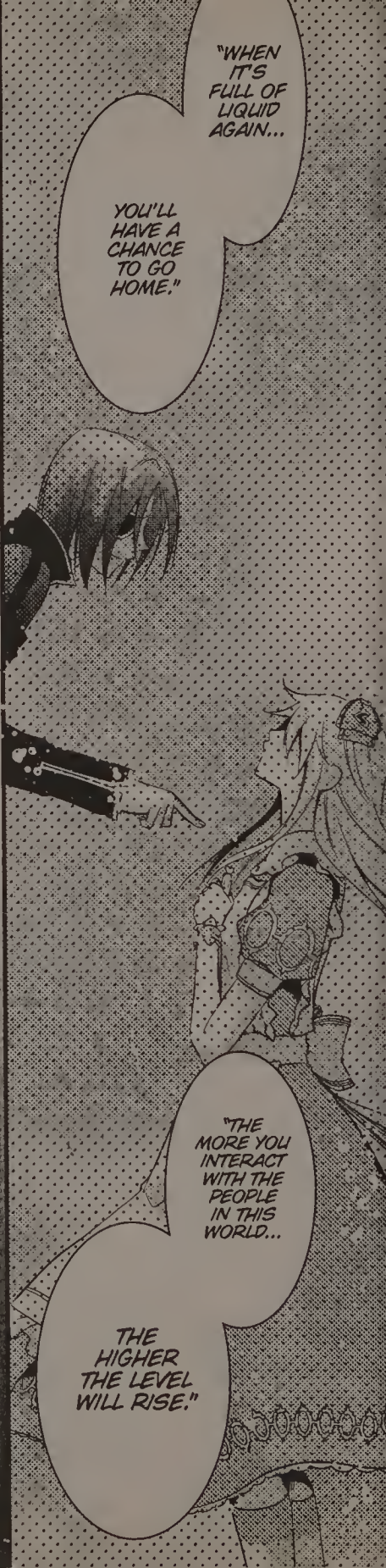
I WANT TO
BELIEVE
THERE'S
ANOTHER
WAY PAST
THIS.

THIS
ISN'T
EVEN
REAL,
IS IT?



HE
CALLED
IT A
GAME...

WITH
ITS
OWN
SET OF
RULES.



"WHEN
IT'S
FULL OF
LIQUID
AGAIN..."

YOU'LL
HAVE A
CHANCE
TO GO
HOME."

"THE
MORE YOU
INTERACT
WITH THE
PEOPLE
IN THIS
WORLD..."

THE
HIGHER
THE LEVEL
WILL RISE."



WELL...

I DIDN'T HAVE A SPECIFIC REASON.

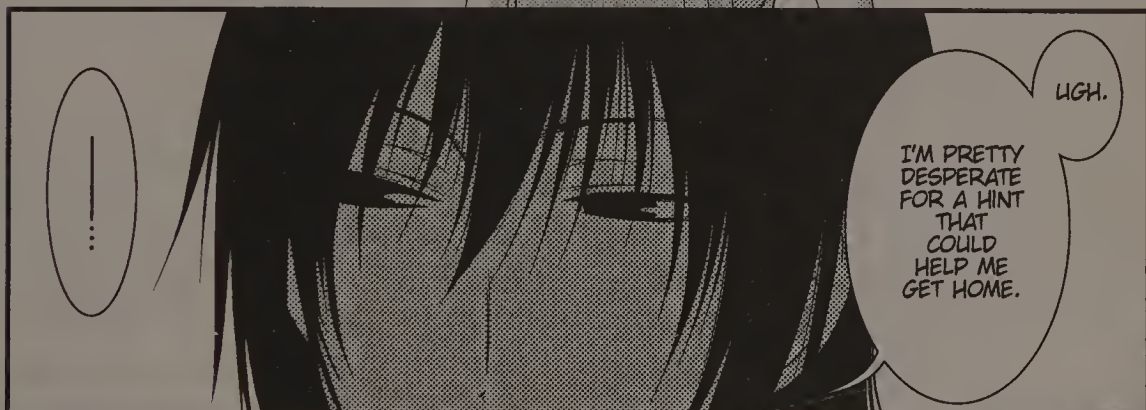
DON'T YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO?

AND THAT...

IS REALLY COMFORTING SOMETIMES.

WHY ARE YOU IN TOWN?

OTHER THAN WANTING TO TALK TO SOMEONE NEW.



UGH.

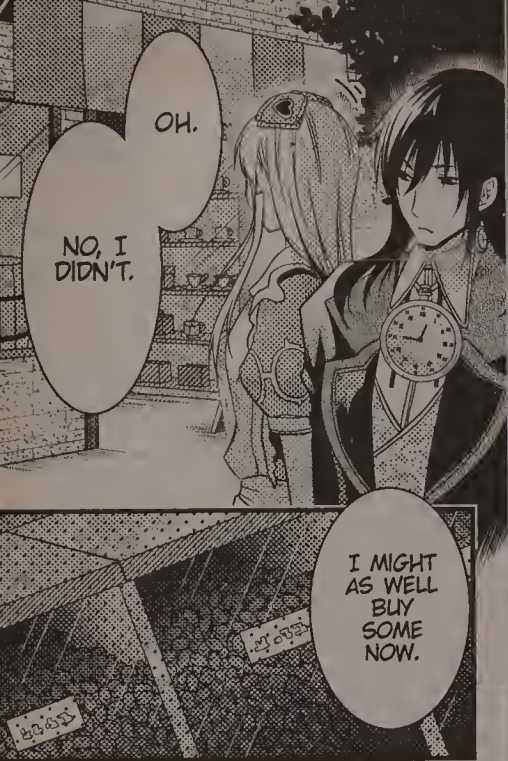
I'M PRETTY DESPERATE FOR A HINT THAT COULD HELP ME GET HOME.

A NIGHT-
MARE
NAMED
NIGHTMARE
TOLD ME
SOMETHING
IN MY
DREAMS.

AND
NOTHING WAS
HELPING AT
THE CASTLE,
SO...
Y'KNOW,
TRYING TO BE
PROACTIVE.

RIGHT
AFTER I
CAME TO
THE
COUNTRY
OF
HEARTS...

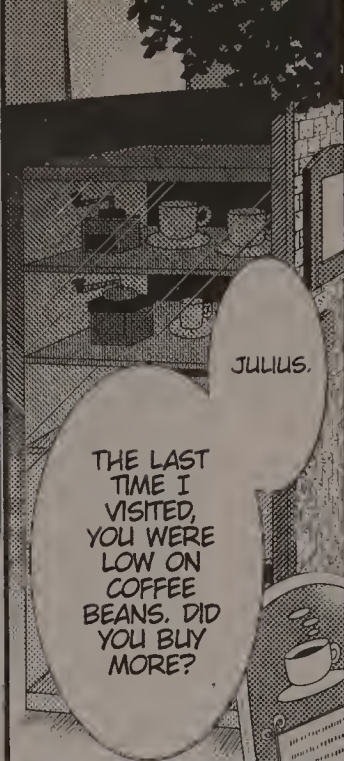
"THAT
VIAL."



OH.

NO, I
DIDN'T.

I MIGHT
AS WELL
BUY
SOME
NOW.



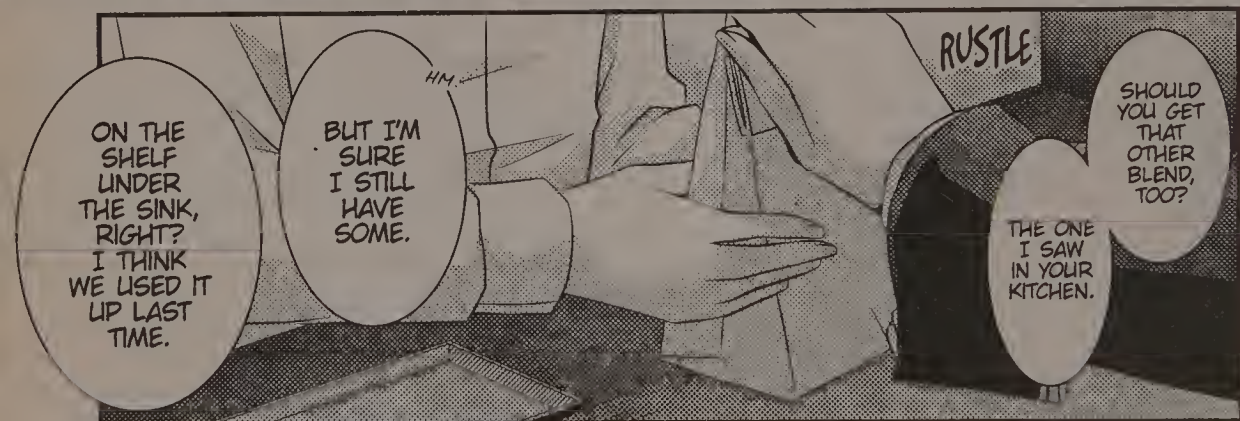
JULIUS.

THE LAST
TIME I
VISITED,
YOU WERE
LOW ON
COFFEE
BEANS. DID
YOU BUY
MORE?



I WISH
I DIDN'T
SLEEP
LIKE THE
DEAD.

HUH?



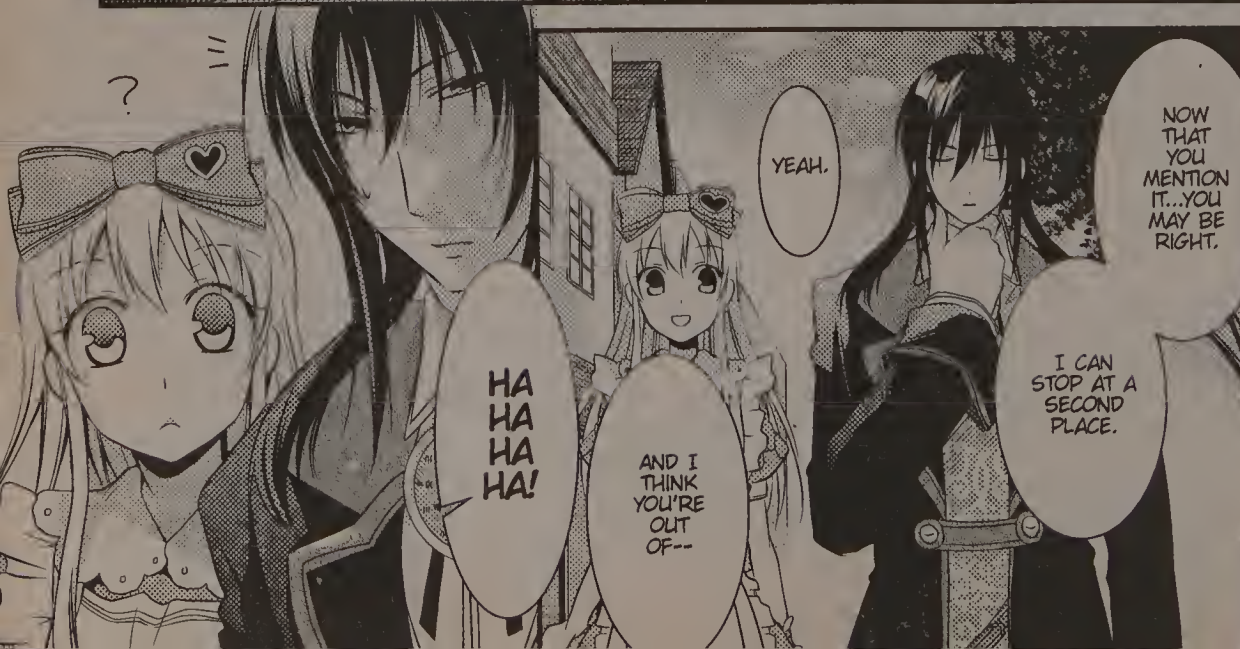
ON THE
SHELF
UNDER
THE SINK,
RIGHT?
I THINK
WE USED IT
UP LAST
TIME.

BUT I'M
SURE
I STILL
HAVE
SOME.

RUSTLE

SHOULD
YOU GET
THAT
OTHER
BLEND,
TOO?

THE ONE
I SAW
IN YOUR
KITCHEN.



YEAH.

HA
HA
HA
HA!

AND I
THINK
YOU'RE
OUT
OF--

NOW
THAT
YOU
MENTION
IT...YOU
MAY BE
RIGHT.

I CAN
STOP AT A
SECOND
PLACE.

THIS
WHOLE
THING IS
JUST A
DREAM.

IT'S
ACTUALLY
THAT
SUNDAY
AFTER-
NOON.

I FELL
ASLEEP
READING
A BOOK.

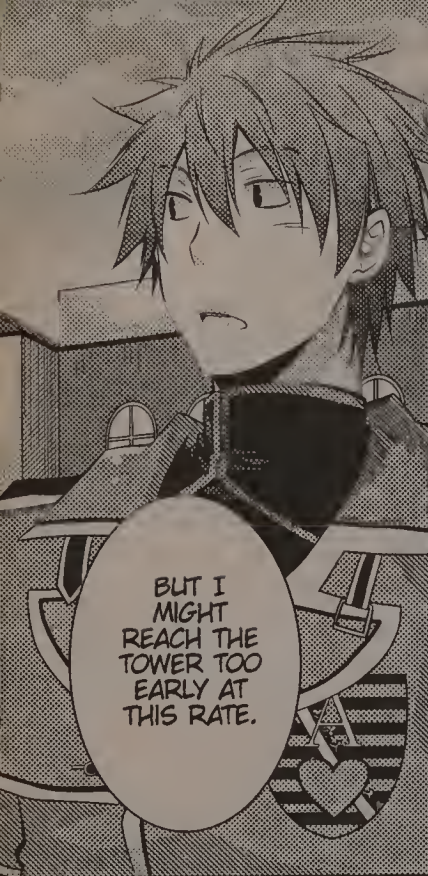
I'M
JUST
STUCK
IN A
DREAM.

I
WONDER
IF THE
TIME I
SPEND
HERE IS
ONLY A
FEW
HOURS
IN REAL
LIFE?

BECAUSE
IT FEELS
LIKE I'VE
BEEN
HERE FOR
AGES.

MY
OLDER
SISTER
PROBABLY
NOTICED...

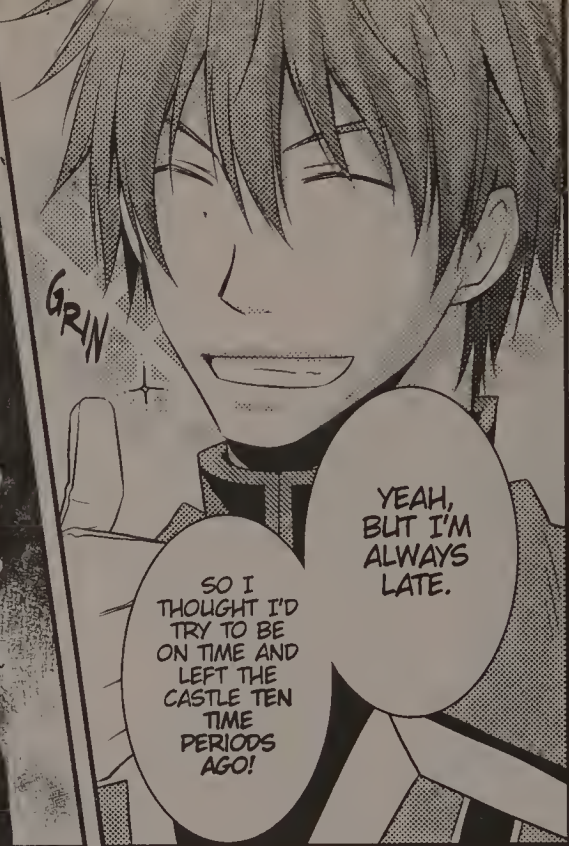
AND
INSTEAD
OF MAKING
FUN OF
ME, I BET
SHE
COVERED
ME WITH A
BLANKET.



BUT I
MIGHT
REACH THE
TOWER TOO
EARLY AT
THIS RATE.

AND
LOOK
HOW
CLOSE
I AM
ALREADY!

HE ONLY
MADE IT TO
TOWN IN
TEN TIME
PERIODS?



YEAH,
BUT I'M
ALWAYS
LATE.

SO I
THOUGHT I'D
TRY TO BE
ON TIME AND
LEFT THE
CASTLE TEN
TIME
PERIODS
AGO!

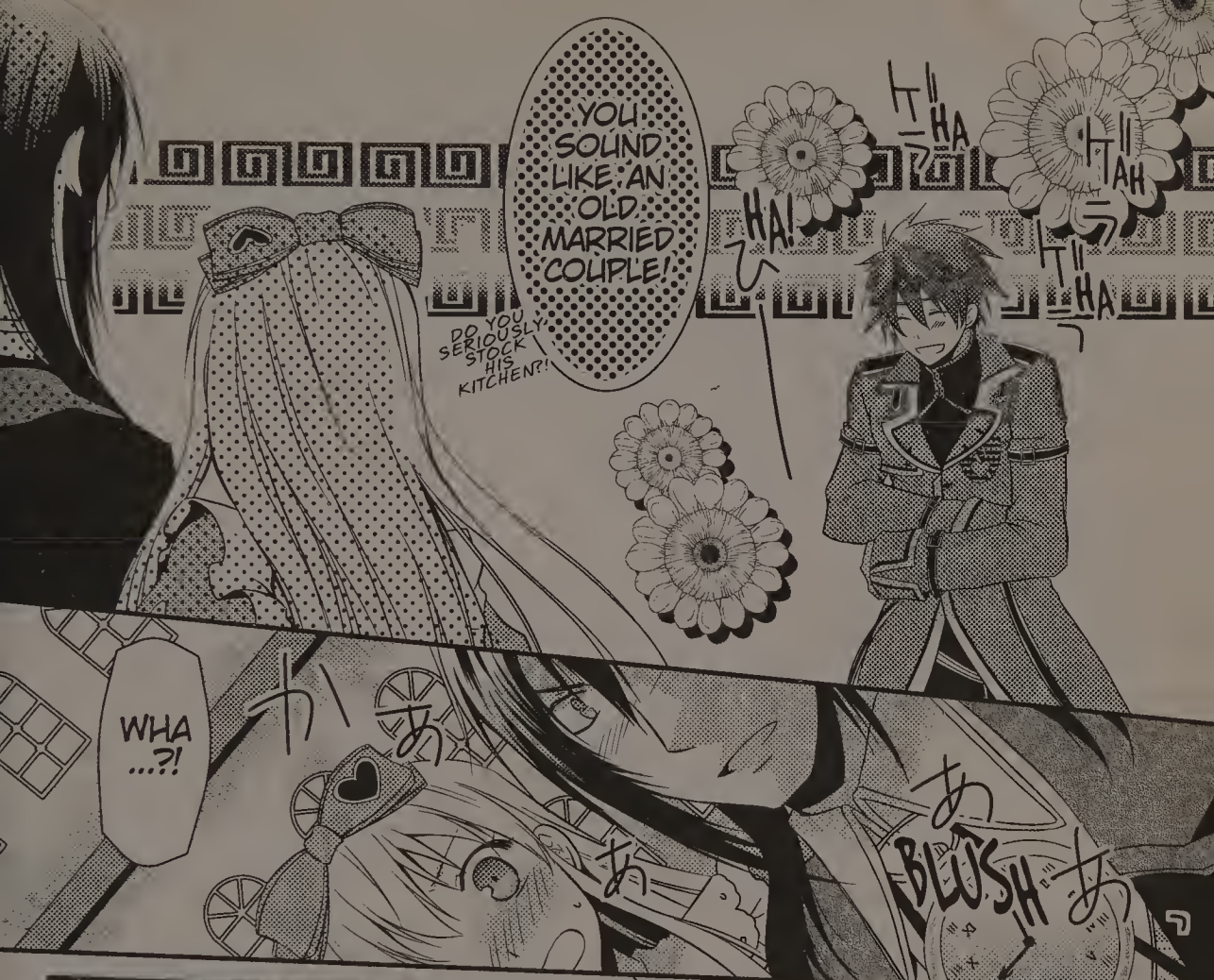


I'LL
WANDER
AROUND
AWHILE.

DON'T,
YOU
IMBECILE.

IDIOT!





YOU
SOUND
LIKE AN
OLD
MARRIED
COUPLE!

DO YOU
SERIOUSLY
STOCK
HIS
KITCHEN?!

HA!
HA!
HA!

HA
HA
HA

HA
HA
HA

HA
HA
HA

WHA
...?!

かあ
あ

あ

あ
BLUSH
あ



?

IT'S TOO
EARLY TO
COLLECT
AGAIN.

I'M
HEADING
FOR THE
TOWER.

HM?

WHAT
ARE YOU
EVEN
DOING
HERE,
ACE?!



THAT'S...

SHUT
UP,
ACE!

YES!
WHAT
SHE
SAID!

WE'RE
NOTHING
LIKE
A...!



THAT'S IT?

THAT'S BARELY BETTER THAN LAST TIME!

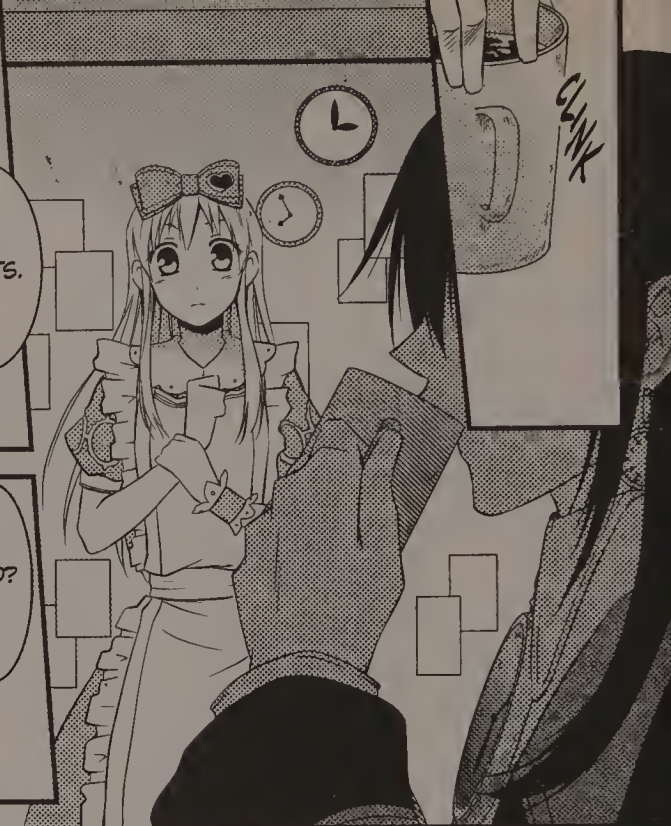
65 POINTS.



DON'T DRINK IT IF YOU HATE IT.

SO?

I SUPPOSE I CAN STOMACH THIS.

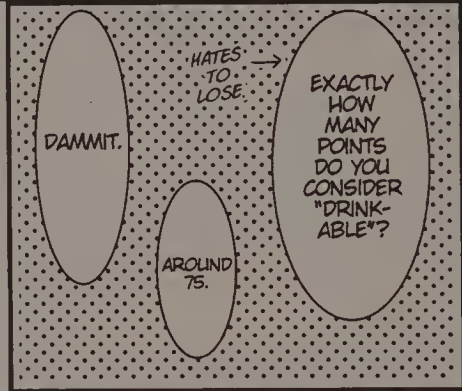


CLINK



WHAT-
EVER.

I'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY EVENTUALLY.

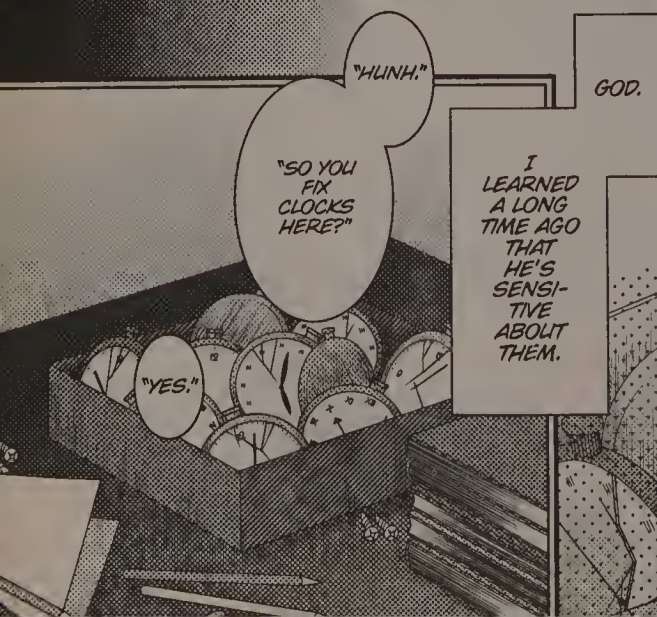


DAMMIT.

HATES
TO
LOSE.

AROUND
75.

EXACTLY HOW MANY POINTS DO YOU CONSIDER "DRINK-ABLE"?



"HUNH."

GOD.

"SO YOU FIX CLOCKS HERE?"

I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO THAT HE'S SENSITIVE ABOUT THEM.

"YES."



WHENEVER I COME TO THE TOWER...

I SEE THE BOXES OF CLOCKS, WAITING TO BE FIXED.



...HE
LOOKED
LIKE HE
BLAMED
HIMSELF
FOR SOME-
THING.

JULIUS
DOESN'T
SMILE
MUCH.

"THIS IS
DIRTY
WORK."

BUT
BACK
THEN...

"THESE
CLOCKS
ARE
UNCLEAN..."

"AS ARE
THE MEN
WHO FIX
THEM."

"WHAT
DID HE
MEAN?"

"YOU
HANG
OUT WITH
THE
CLOCK-
MAKER?"

"WHOA."

EVEN
THOUGH IT
BOTHERED
ME.

I COULDN'T
BRING
MYSELF TO
ASK HIM
ABOUT IT.

"STAY
AWAY
FROM
THAT
GUY."

"LOOK,
ALICE."

"I LIKE
YOU,
SO I'M
GONNA
TELL YOU
SOME-
THING."

"HEH!"

"I
WOULDN'T
CALL US
CLOSE."

"BUT I
VISIT THE
TOWER
SOME-
TIMES."



"DON'T TOUCH THOSE!"

"BUT THERE'S A TON OF THEM!"

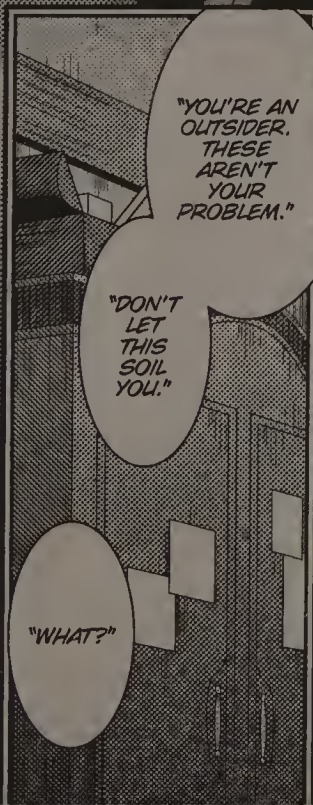
"I HAVEN'T SEEN MANY PEOPLE CARRY CLOCKS IN THIS WORLD."

!
 ALTHOUGH, I GUESS PETER DOES.

"WHO THE HECK IS BREAKING ALL THESE--"



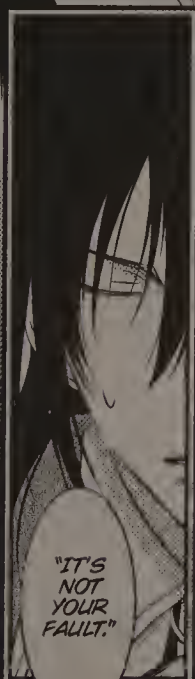
"I-I'M SORRY!"



"YOU'RE AN OUTSIDER. THESE AREN'T YOUR PROBLEM."

"DON'T LET THIS SOIL YOU."

"WHAT?"



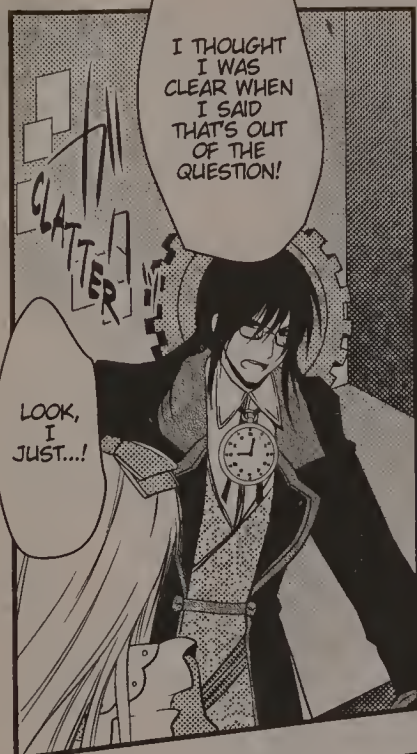
"IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT."



"I DIDN'T ..."

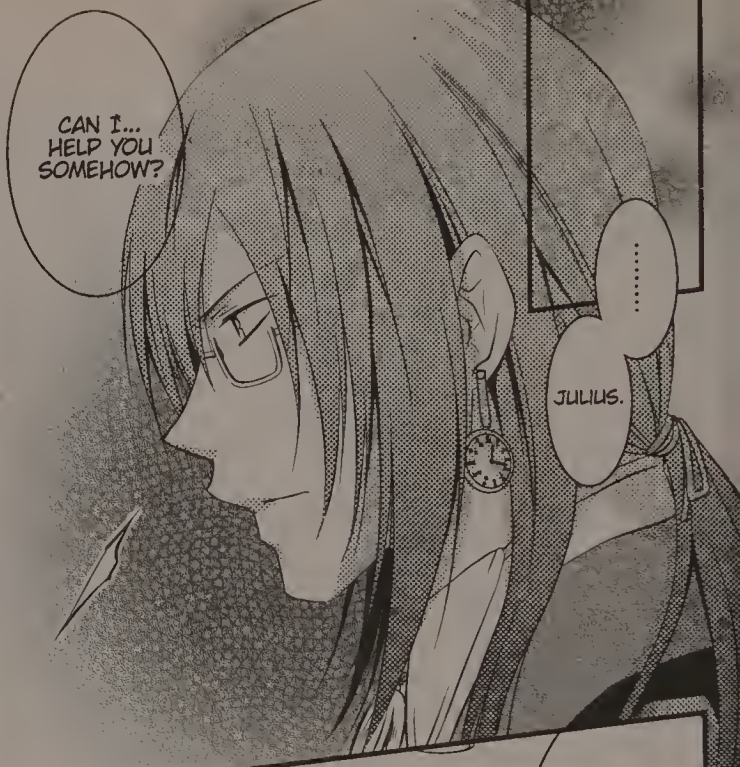
"I'M SORRY..."

"FOR... TOUCHING THEM WITHOUT ASKING."



I THOUGHT
I WAS
CLEAR WHEN
I SAID
THAT'S OUT
OF THE
QUESTION!

LOOK,
I
JUST...!



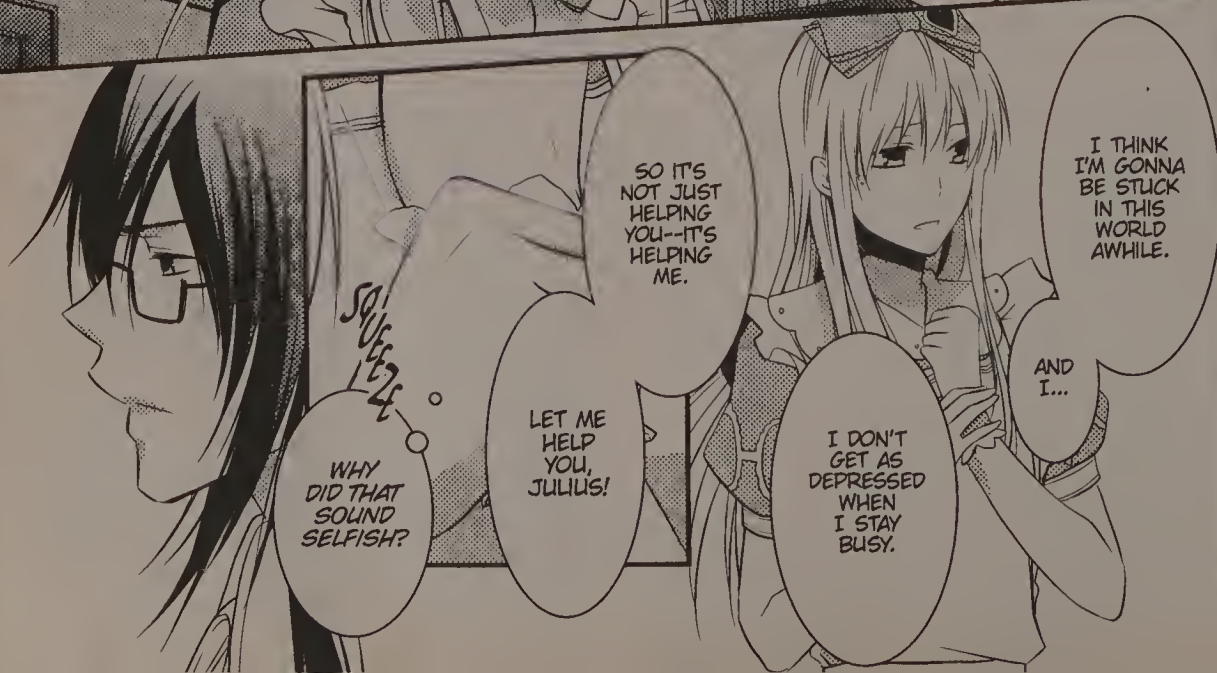
CAN I...
HELP YOU
SOMEHOW?

JULIUS.



BUT MAYBE
I COULD DO
SOMETHING
ELSE?
LIKE RUN
ERRANDS
FOR YOU?

I CAN'T
HELP YOU
FIX THE
CLOCKS,
OBVIOUSLY,
BECAUSE
I HAVE
NO IDEA
HOW.



WHY
DID THAT
SOUND
SELFISH?

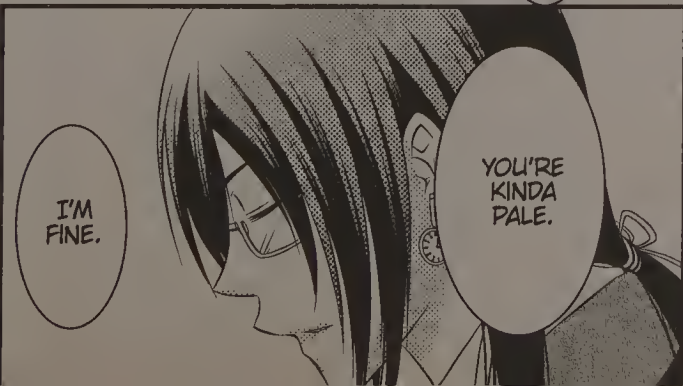
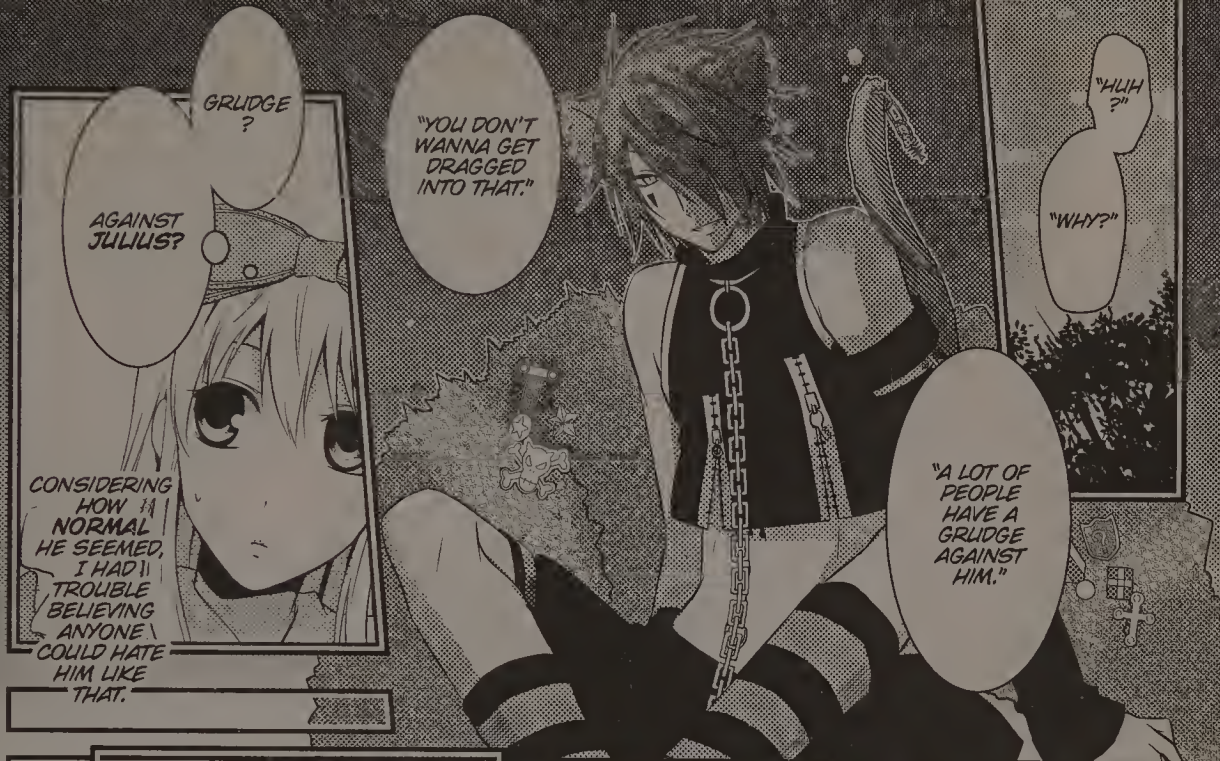
LET ME
HELP
YOU,
JULIUS!

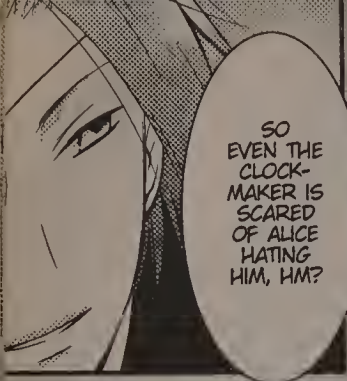
SO IT'S
NOT JUST
HELPING
YOU--IT'S
HELPING
ME.

I DON'T
GET AS
DEPRESSED
WHEN
I STAY
BUSY.

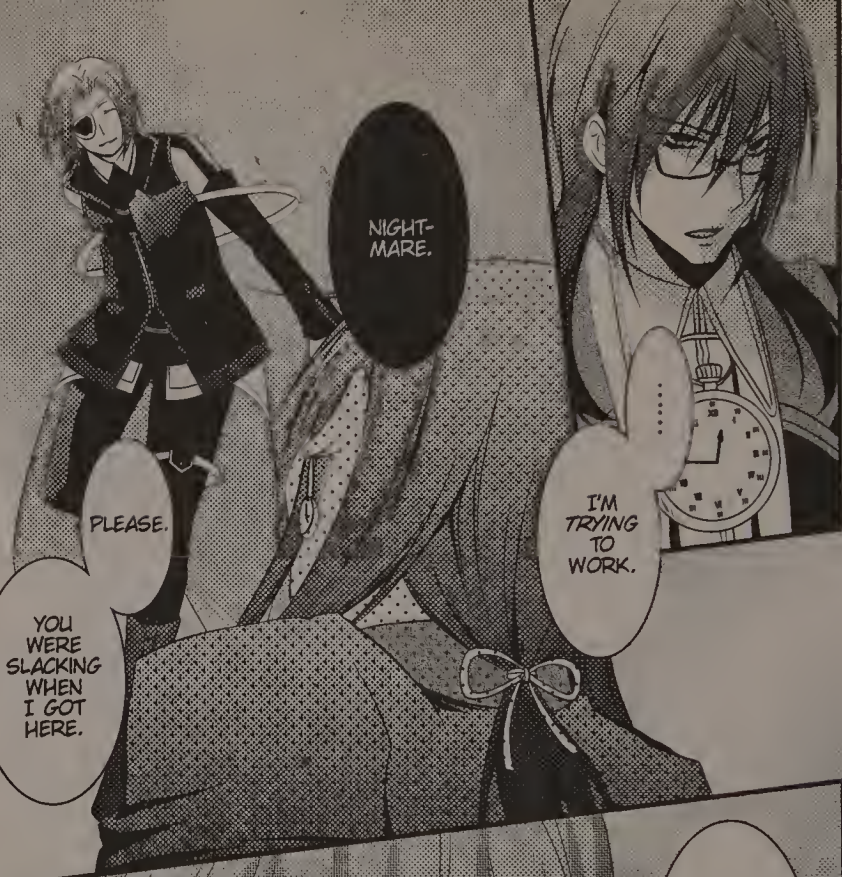
AND
I...

I THINK
I'M GONNA
BE STUCK
IN THIS
WORLD
AWHILE.





SO
EVEN THE
CLOCK-
MAKER IS
SCARED
OF ALICE
HATING
HIM, HM?



NIGHT-
MARE.

PLEASE.

YOU
WERE
SLACKING
WHEN
I GOT
HERE.

I'M
TRYING
TO
WORK.



SHE
DOESN'T
NEED TO
CONCERN
HERSELF
WITH THE
DARK SIDES
OF OUR
WORLD.

SHE'S
EVENTUALLY
GOING TO
LEAVE.



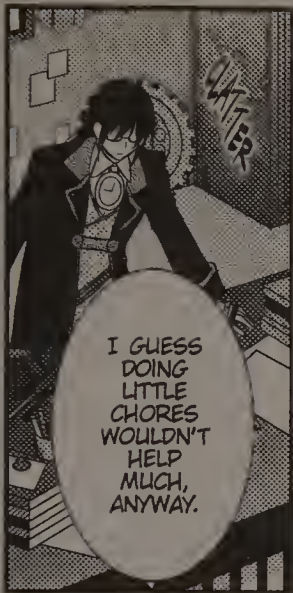
NIGHT-
MARE...

WE HAVE
RULES
FOR A
REASON.

I JUST
HELPED
A
LITTLE.

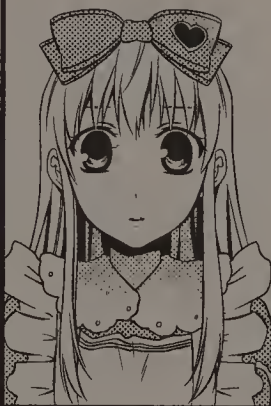
DIDN'T YOU
HELP PETER
WHITE
KIDNAP
HER IN
THE FIRST
PLACE?

HMPH.

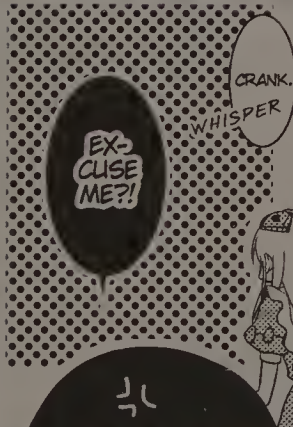


I GUESS
DOING
LITTLE
CHORES
WOULDN'T
HELP
MUCH,
ANYWAY.

F-FINE.
NEVER
MIND.



I
DON'T
NEED
HELP.



CRANK.

WHISPER

EX-
CUSE
ME?!

I DON'T
MEAN TO
DISTRACT
YOU.



I
SHOULD...
GET
HOME.



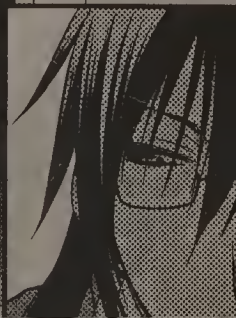
HEH
HEH.



KA-
CHUNK
TAP
TAP

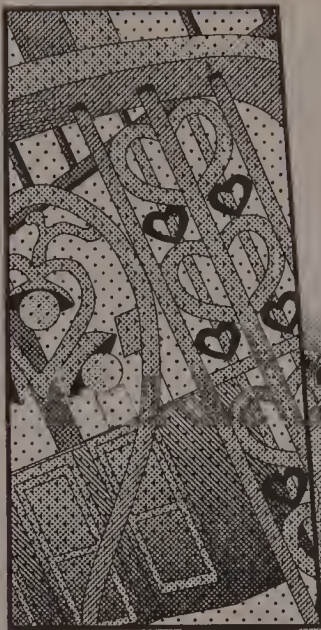
KID-
DING.

SEE
YOU.



PUSH

WHEN
DID IT
GET THIS
FULL...?



THE EMPTY
VIAL IS
STARTING
TO FILL UP
AGAIN.

BUT
JUST
LIKE
NIGHT-
MARE
SAID...

PETER TOLD
ME THAT
BEFORE HE
FORCED THE
MEDICINE
OF HEART
DOWN MY
THROAT.

"IN THIS
WORLD,
ALL
PEOPLE
MUST BE
PART
OF THE
GAME."

HI,
ALICE.

LONG
TIME
NO
SEE.

!

THEY
WANT TO
KEEP ME
IN THE
DARK.

NIGHTMARE
AND PETER
ARE HIDING
SOMETHING
FROM ME.

WHY
ARE THEY
DOING
THIS TO
ME?

AND I
GET THE
FEELING
JULIUS
IS,
TOO.



IN THAT
SENSE,
IT'S A
PROBLEM
THAT SHE'S
CLOSE
TO YOU.

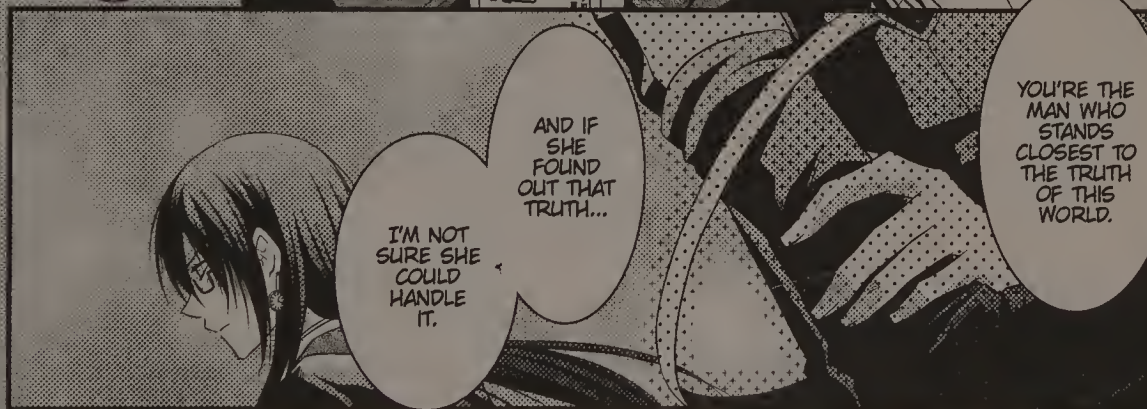
I'M SURE
YOU CAN
GUESS
WHY.

BUT IT'S
TRUE THAT
I WANT
ALICE TO
STAY IN
OUR
WORLD.



...MORE
THAN A
LITTLE.

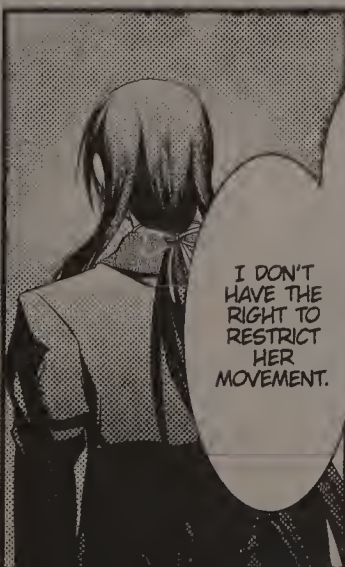
EVEN I
CAN'T
BREAK
THE
RULES...



I'M NOT
SURE SHE
COULD
HANDLE
IT.

AND IF
SHE
FOUND
OUT THAT
TRUTH...

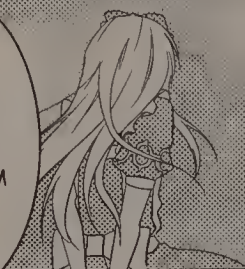
YOU'RE THE
MAN WHO
STANDS
CLOSEST
TO THE
TRUTH
OF THIS
WORLD.



I DON'T
HAVE THE
RIGHT TO
RESTRICT
HER
MOVEMENT.



YOU COULD
RESTRICT
YOUR
PERMISSION
SO SHE
COULDN'T
ENTER YOUR
DOMAIN,
CLOCKMAKER.



I MIGHT
AS WELL
PLAY
ALONG
WHILE I'M
IN IT.



BUT THIS
IS A
DREAM.



MOVING
INTO THE
CASTLE
WAS
SUCH A
WASTE.

PETER'S
NOT
HELPING
AT ALL.



BUT
FINDING
MY WAY
HOME IS
REALLY
HARD,
NIGHT-
MARE.



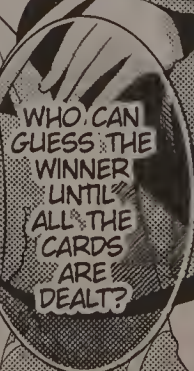
NOT
BECAUSE
I
WANTED
TO.



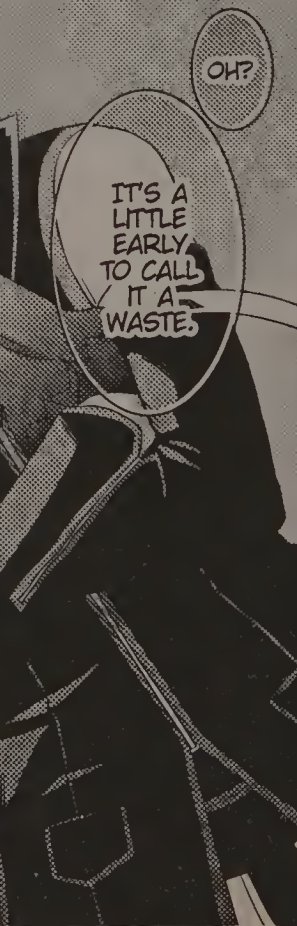
LOOK,
I'M
GONNA
WIN.

I'M
GOING
BACK
HOME
TO MY
OLDER
SISTER.

THE
GAME
AGAIN.



WHO CAN
GUESS THE
WINNER
UNTIL
ALL THE
CARDS
ARE
DEALT?



OH?

IT'S A
LITTLE
EARLY
TO CALL
IT A
WASTE.



WELL...
YOU
HELPED
WITH
THAT A
LITTLE.

THANKS.
WHILE
YOU'RE
HERE,
CAN I
ASK YOU
SOME-
THING?

ABOUT
THE
CLOCKS?

ER...

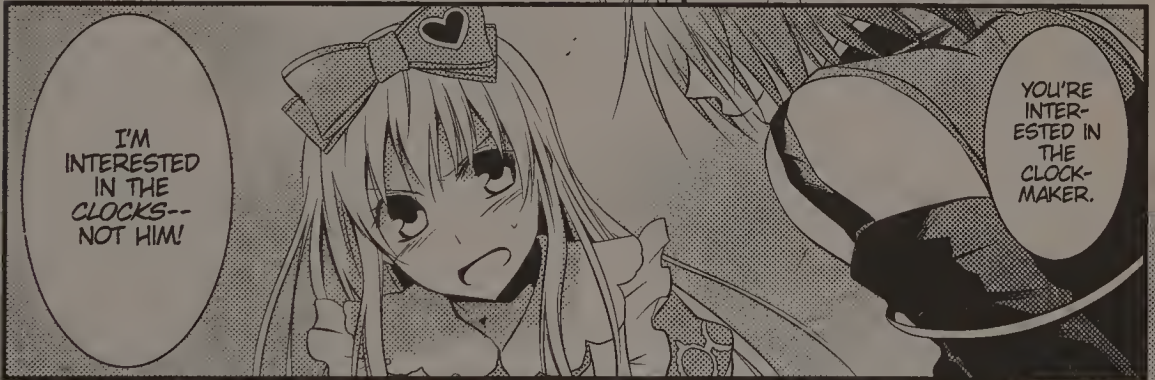
YEAH,
ACTUALLY.



NIGHT-
MARE?

HEH.

YOU
LOOK
GOOD.



I'M
INTERESTED
IN THE
CLOCKS--
NOT HIM!

YOU'RE
INTERESTED
IN THE
CLOCK-
MAKER.



I'M SURE
YOU CAN
HANDLE IT.

KEEP
PLAYING
THE GAME.

YOU'LL
LEARN THE
TRUTH
EVENTUALLY.

YOU'VE
ALREADY
ADAPTED
PRETTY
WELL
TO OUR
WORLD.

AS
USUAL,
HE
WON'T
JUST
TELL ME.

?

DO
YOU
LOVE
ME
YET?

HOW
ARE
YOU,
MY
PET?

FOR
GOD'S
SAKE,

I'M
GETTING
REALLY
SICK OF
THIS.

WAIT,
WHAT?

...AND
YOUR
NEW LIFE
COULD
START.

EMBRACE
THAT
TRUTH...

IT MEANS
THAT I
LOVE YOU
MOST IN
THE
WORLD!
♡

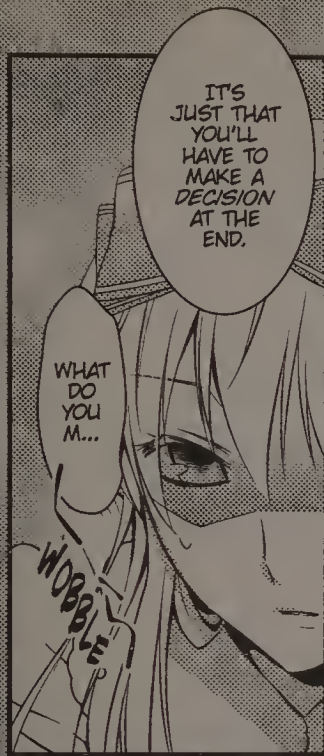
WHAT'S
THAT
SUPPOSED
TO
MEAN?

I'M
SORRY I
ASKED!

PETER,
LOOK.

I KNOW,
MY LAMB!
I KNOW
IN MY
HEART!

YOU'VE
LOVED
ME FOR
AGES--
I DO
LOVE
THAT
PART.



IT'S
JUST THAT
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
MAKE A
DECISION
AT THE
END.

WHAT
DO
YOU
M...

WOBBLE



OF
COURSE
NOT.

I
NEVER
LIE TO
YOU.

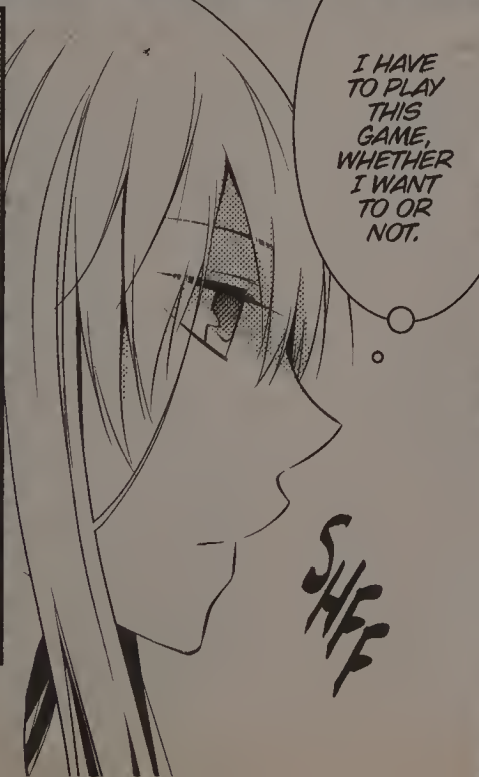
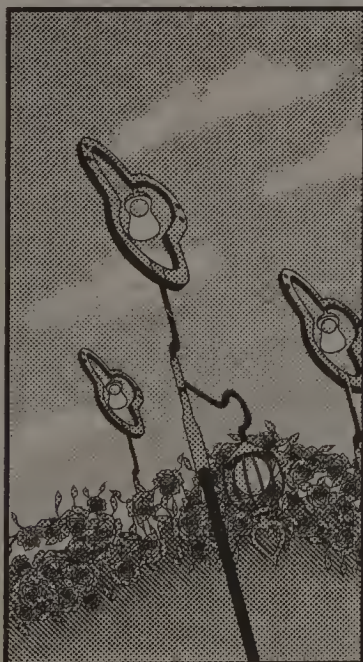
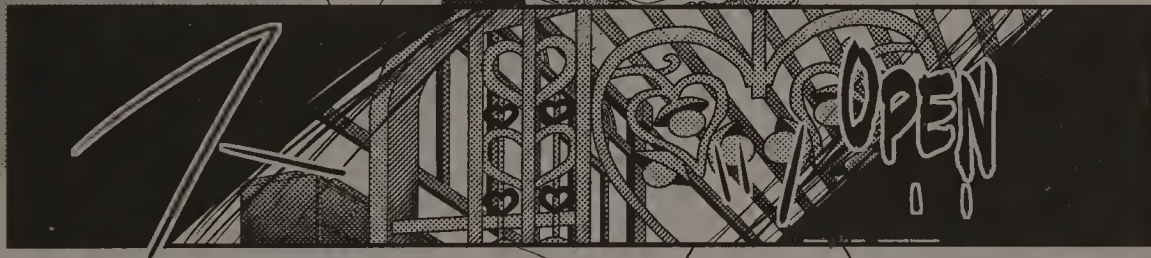


YOU
HAVEN'T
BEEN
LYING
TO ME,
HAVE
YOU?!



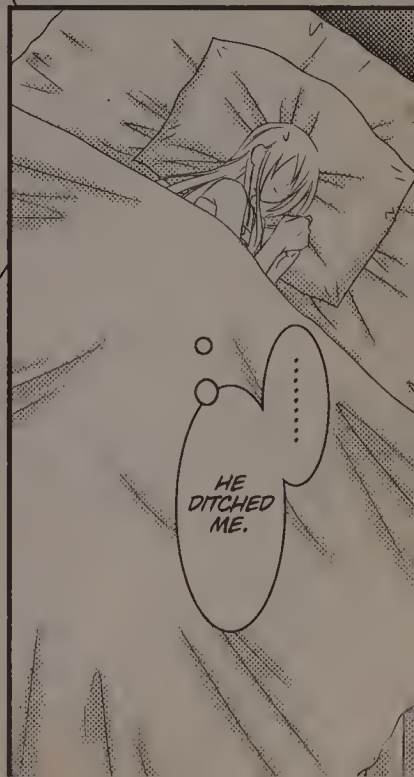
...
?

WHAT
...?



I HAVE
TO PLAY
THIS
GAME,
WHETHER
I WANT
TO OR
NOT.

SHEE



HE
DITCHED
ME.

YOU JUST
DON'T
WANT ME
GOING
ANYWHERE!

WHERE
DO YOU
GET
OFF?!

THE LOT
OF THEM
ARE
CRAWLING
WITH
GERMS.

SNAP

BUT THE
CLOCK-
MAKER
ISN'T THE
ONLY
THREAT.

YOU
KIDNAPPED
ME TO
THIS PLACE
AND NOW
YOU WANNA
KEEP ME
LOCKED
UP!

DON'T
BE
STUPID!

I ALSO
DON'T
WANT YOU
TALKING
TO THE
PEOPLE AT
HATTER
MANSION
OR THE
PARK.

FLUSTER

SCREW
YOU!

ALI--

I NEVER
SHOULD'VE
COME
TO THE
CASTLE IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!!

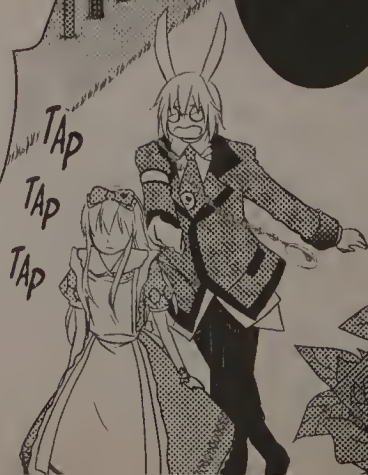
DON'T
COUNT
ON ME
COMING
BACK!!

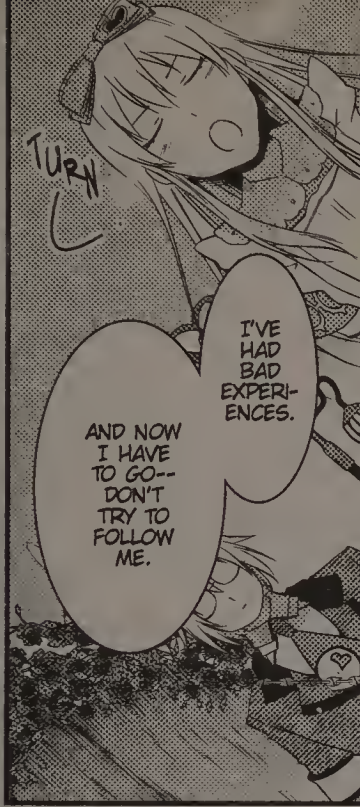
NO!

ALICE,
PLEASE
DON'T
LEAVE!

SLAP!

UGH.
THAT
FELT
GOOD,
BUT...

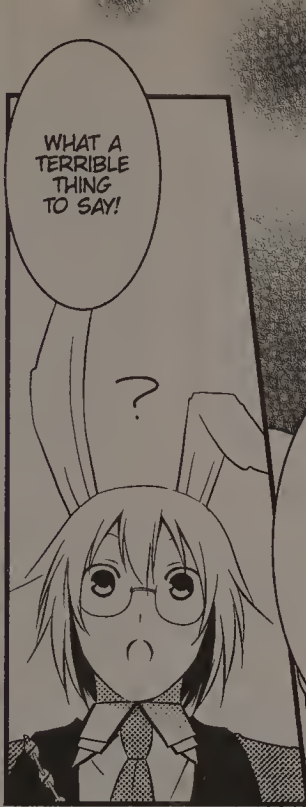




TURN

AND NOW I HAVE TO GO-- DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME.

I'VE HAD BAD EXPERIENCES.



WHAT A TERRIBLE THING TO SAY!



PETER...
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN LOVE AND ALL ITS BAGGAGE. GOT IT?



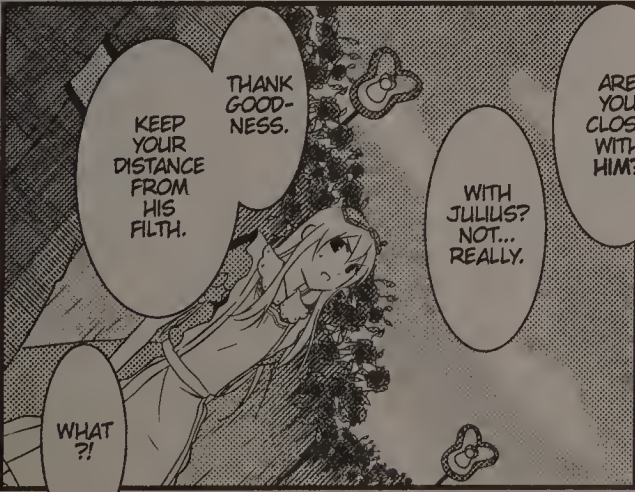
WHAT A PAIN.



I CARE, OF COURSE! I WORRY FOR YOUR SAFETY!

WHO CARES?

YOU'VE BEEN LEAVING THE CASTLE FREQUENTLY.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, MY STAR?



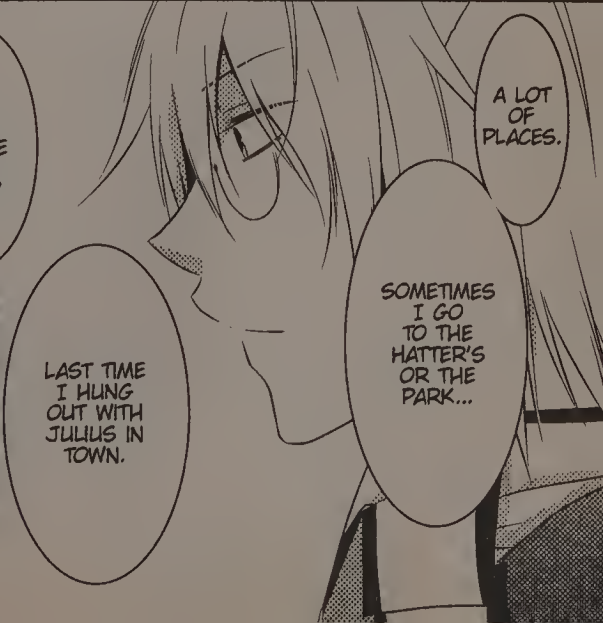
WHAT ?!

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM HIS FILTH.

THANK GOODNESS.

WITH JULIUS? NOT... REALLY.

ARE YOU CLOSE WITH HIM?



LAST TIME I HUNG OUT WITH JULIUS IN TOWN.

SOMETIMES I GO TO THE HATTER'S OR THE PARK...

A LOT OF PLACES.

BUT
THIS
TOWER--

PLEASE
LET
HER BE
JOKING.

YOU'RE
THE ONLY
NEUTRAL
ZONE!

BUT
THAT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM
MOVING
SOME-
WHERE!

PLEASE!

I DON'T
TRUST
ANYONE
ELSE.

SO
VISITING
THEIR
ENEMIES
HASN'T
GOTTEN ME
KILLED OR
ANYTHING.

I KNOW
I'M JUST
A GUEST OF HEART
CASTLE.

I WON'T
TOUCH THE
CLOCKS,
AND I
WON'T
INTERFERE
WITH YOUR
WORK...

.....

I'M
GONNA
MAKE
YOU A
GIANT
POT OF
COFFEE!

ER...
FINE.

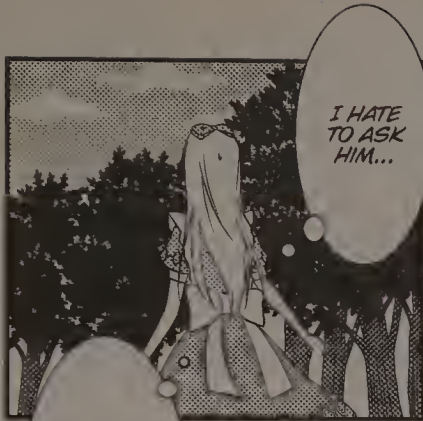
TH-
THIS IS
INTER-
FERING
WITH MY
WORK!

THANK
YOU,
JULIUS!

HUG
P!!

THIS
WOULD
HAVE
TO BE
TEMPO-
RARY.

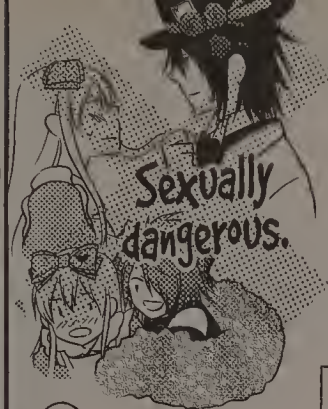
!



I HATE TO ASK HIM...



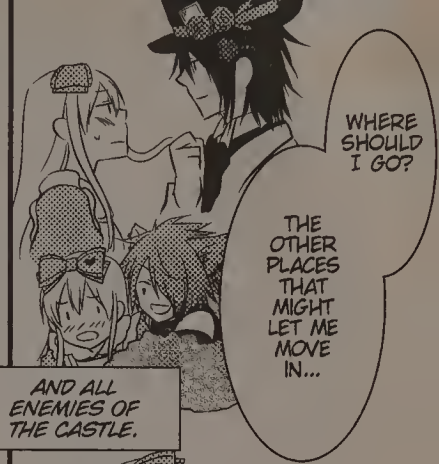
...BUT I MIGHT HAVE TO.



Sexually dangerous.



YEAH, NO.



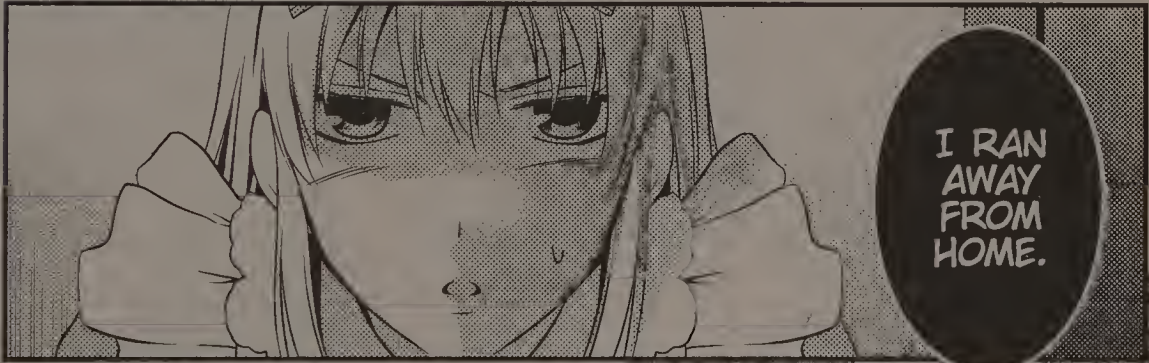
WHERE SHOULD I GO?

THE OTHER PLACES THAT MIGHT LET ME MOVE IN...

AND ALL ENEMIES OF THE CASTLE.



CRAP.



I RAN AWAY FROM HOME.



I DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR REASONING!

I NEED A BREAK FROM PETER'S STUPID FACE.

BUT I CAN'T STAND THE CASTLE RIGHT NOW!

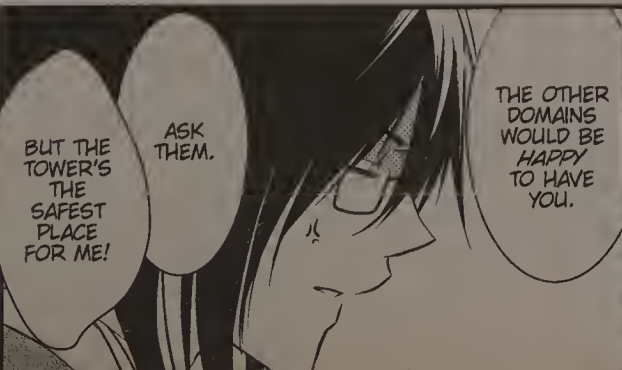


PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE.

YOU WHAT?

D-DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.

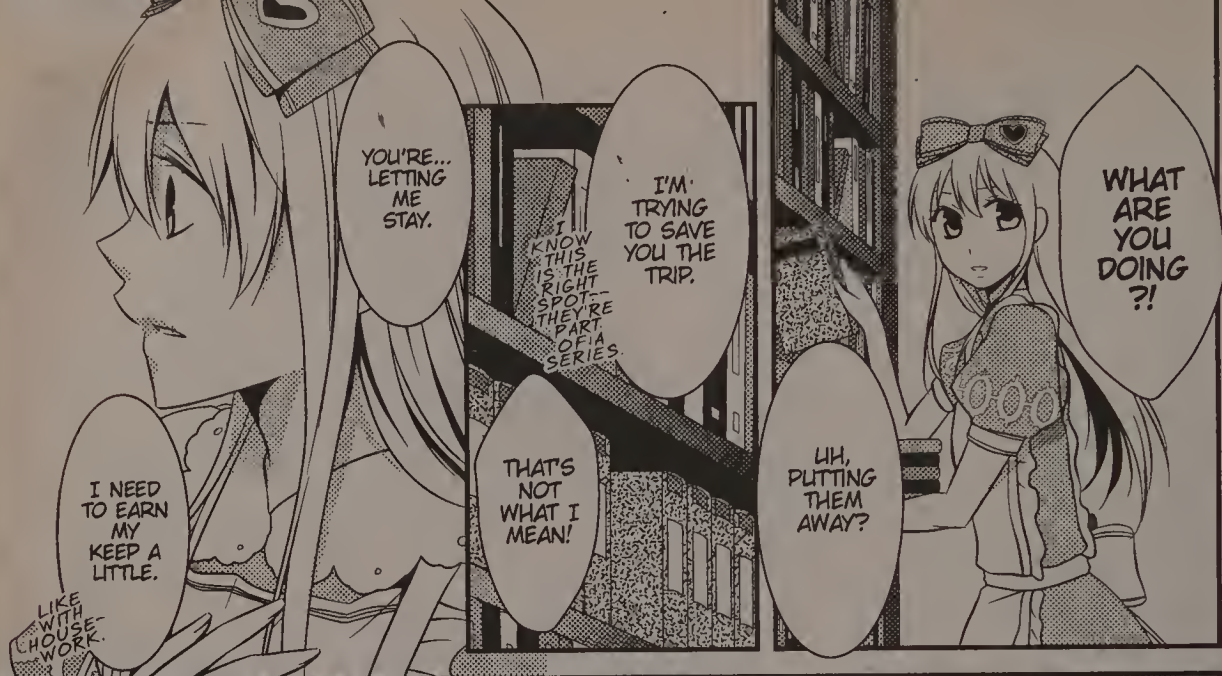
THIS ISN'T A DAYCARE, OR A WELFARE OFFICE!



BUT THE TOWER'S THE SAFEST PLACE FOR ME!

ASK THEM.

THE OTHER DOMAINS WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU.



YOU'RE...
LETTING
ME
STAY.

I KNOW
THIS
IS THE
RIGHT
SPOT--
THEY'RE
PART
OF A
SERIES.

I'M
TRYING
TO SAVE
YOU THE
TRIP.

WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
?!

I NEED
TO EARN
MY
KEEP A
LITTLE.

THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I
MEAN!

UH,
PUTTING
THEM
AWAY?

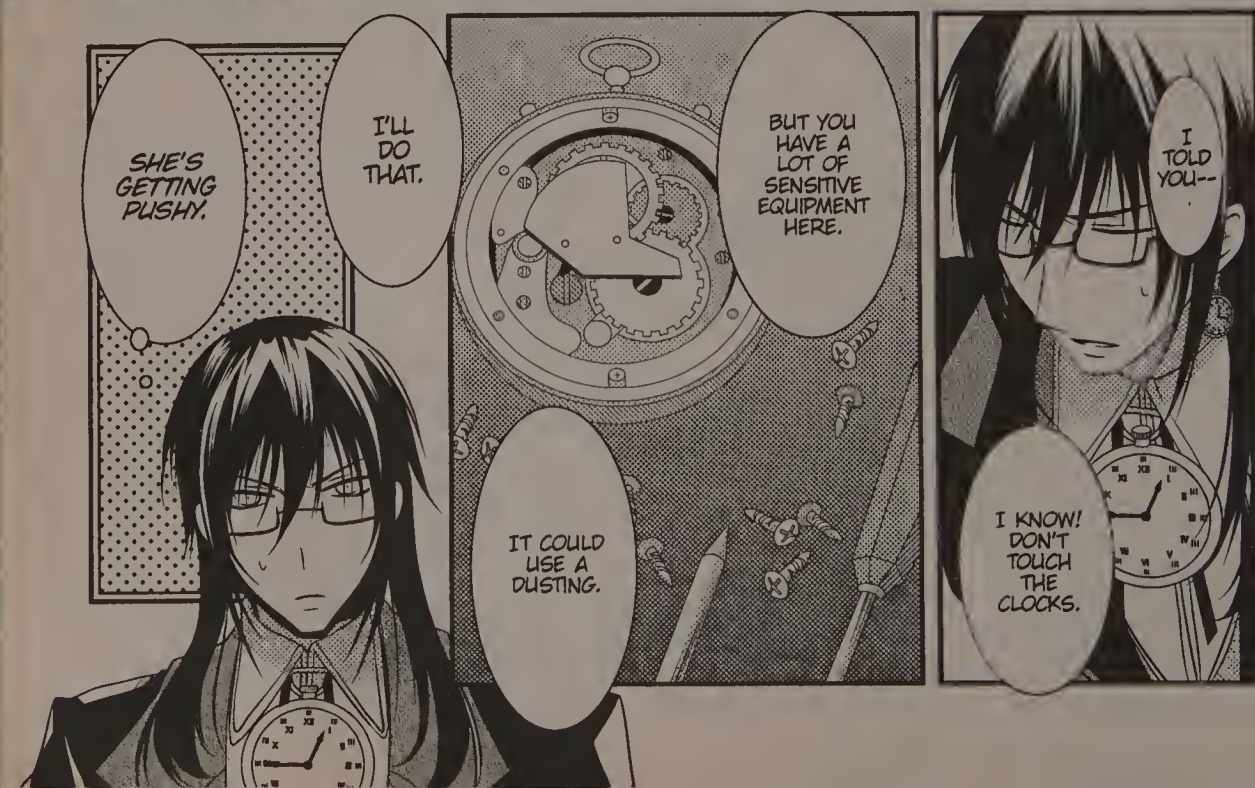
LIKE
WITH
HOUSE-
WORK.



IT'S
WIN-WIN.

YOU MIGHT
AS WELL
GET SOME
CLEANING
OUT OF ME.

I DON'T
LIKE
SITTING
STILL.



SHE'S
GETTING
PUSHY.

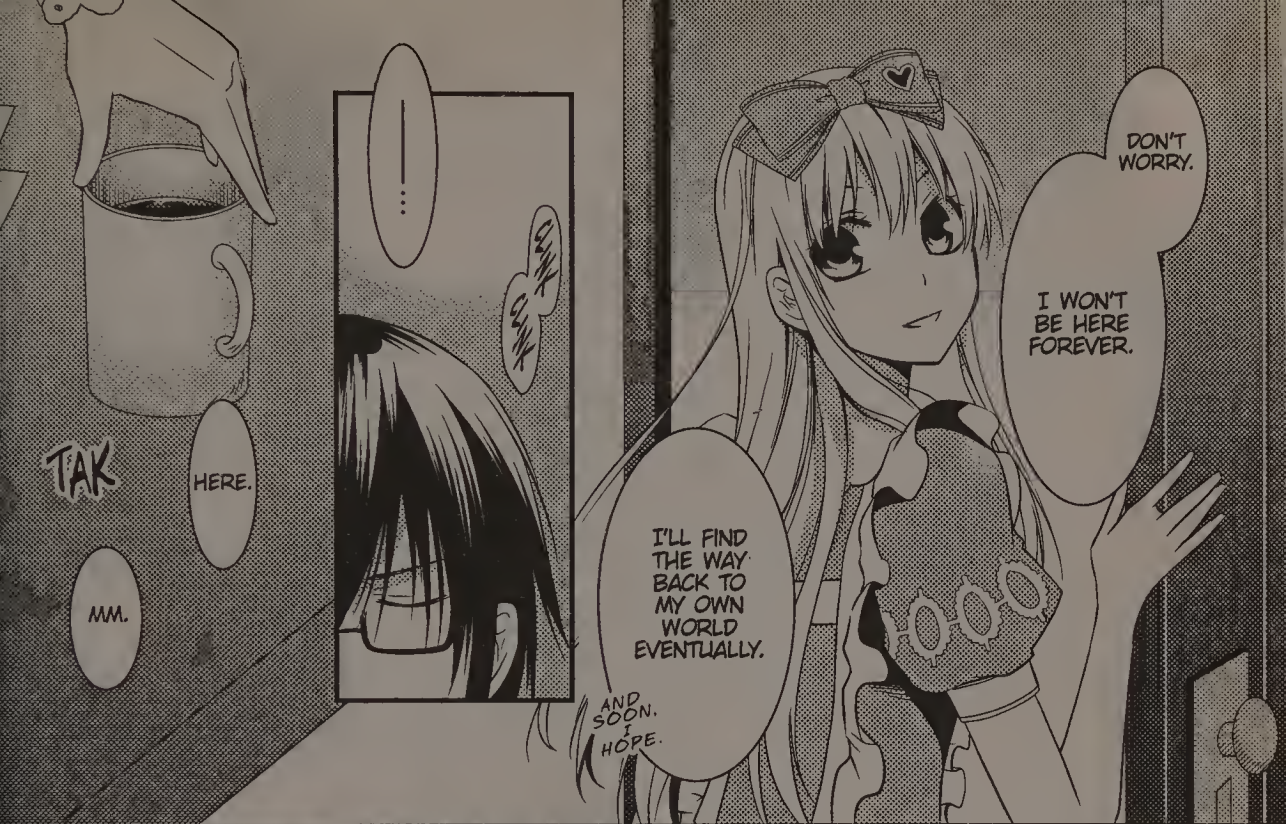
I'LL
DO
THAT.

BUT YOU
HAVE A
LOT OF
SENSITIVE
EQUIPMENT
HERE.

I
TOLD
YOU--

IT COULD
USE A
DUSTING.

I KNOW!
DON'T
TOUCH
THE
CLOCKS.



DON'T WORRY.

I WON'T BE HERE FOREVER.

I'LL FIND THE WAY BACK TO MY OWN WORLD EVENTUALLY.

AND SOON. I HOPE.

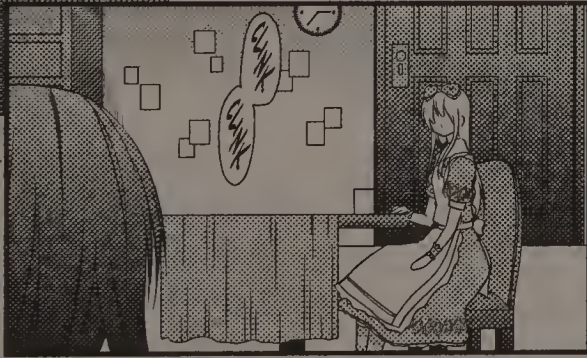
DRINK DRINK

—

HERE.

MM.

TAK



HE BARELY FOUGHT ME.

CLATTER

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE LET ME STAY!

WOW. THAT WAS A LONG SHOT.



OH.

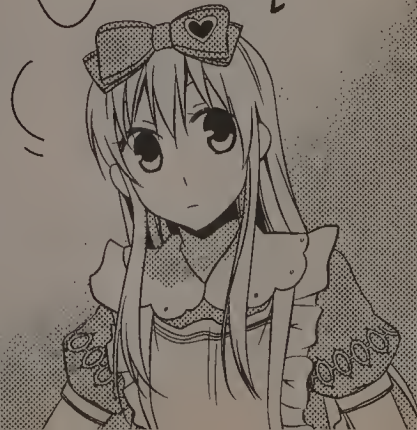
I FORGOT TO PUT THEM--

HEY, JULIUS.

WERE YOU PLANNING TO READ THESE BOOKS? THEY'RE DUSTY.

...

GLANCE





YEAH, HE WOULD.

IF I'M TIRED, I'LL KICK YOU OUT.

DON'T WORRY.

BUT...

WE CAN USE THE BED IN SHIFTS.

JUST TAKE IT.

I'LL BE UP WORKING FOR A LONG TIME YET.

NO WAY! I'LL SLEEP ON THE SOFA!

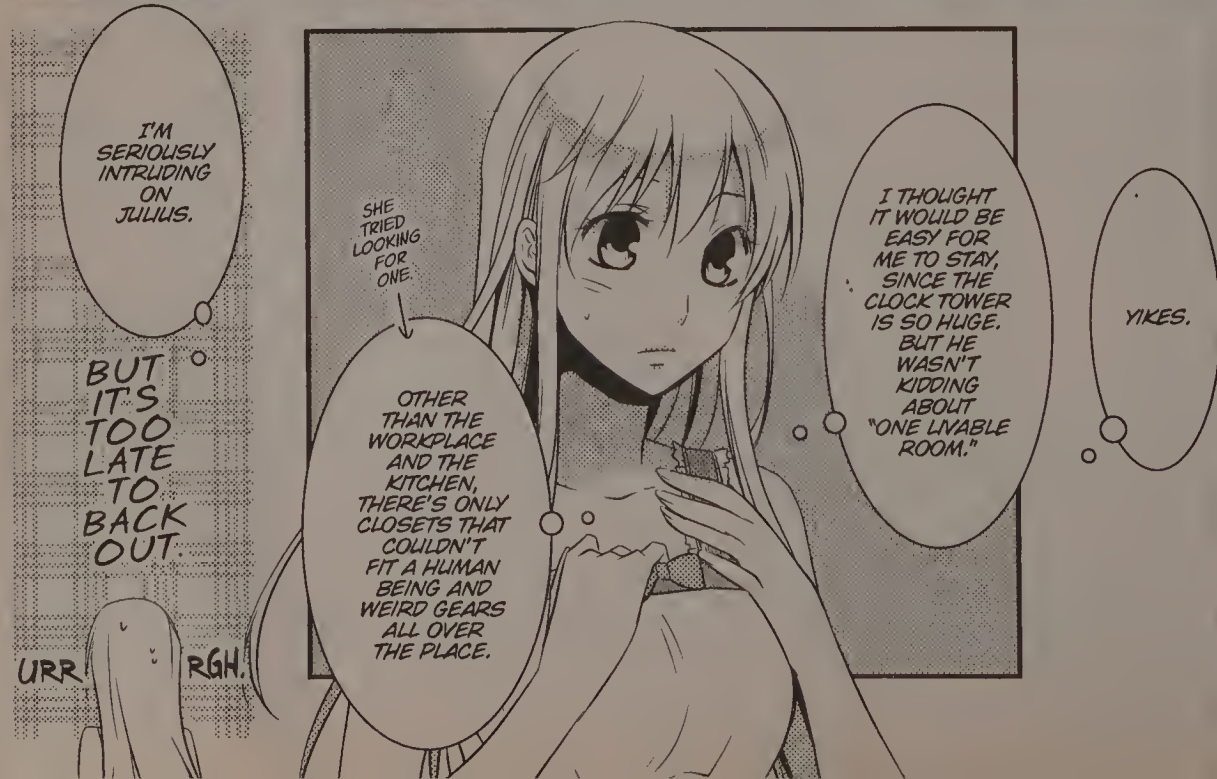
I'M NOT GONNA--



I'M GONNA GO CHANGE.

THANKS, JULIUS. I APPRECIATE IT.

I SHOULD GO FOR IT.



I'M SERIOUSLY INTRUDING ON JULIUS.

BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO BACK OUT.

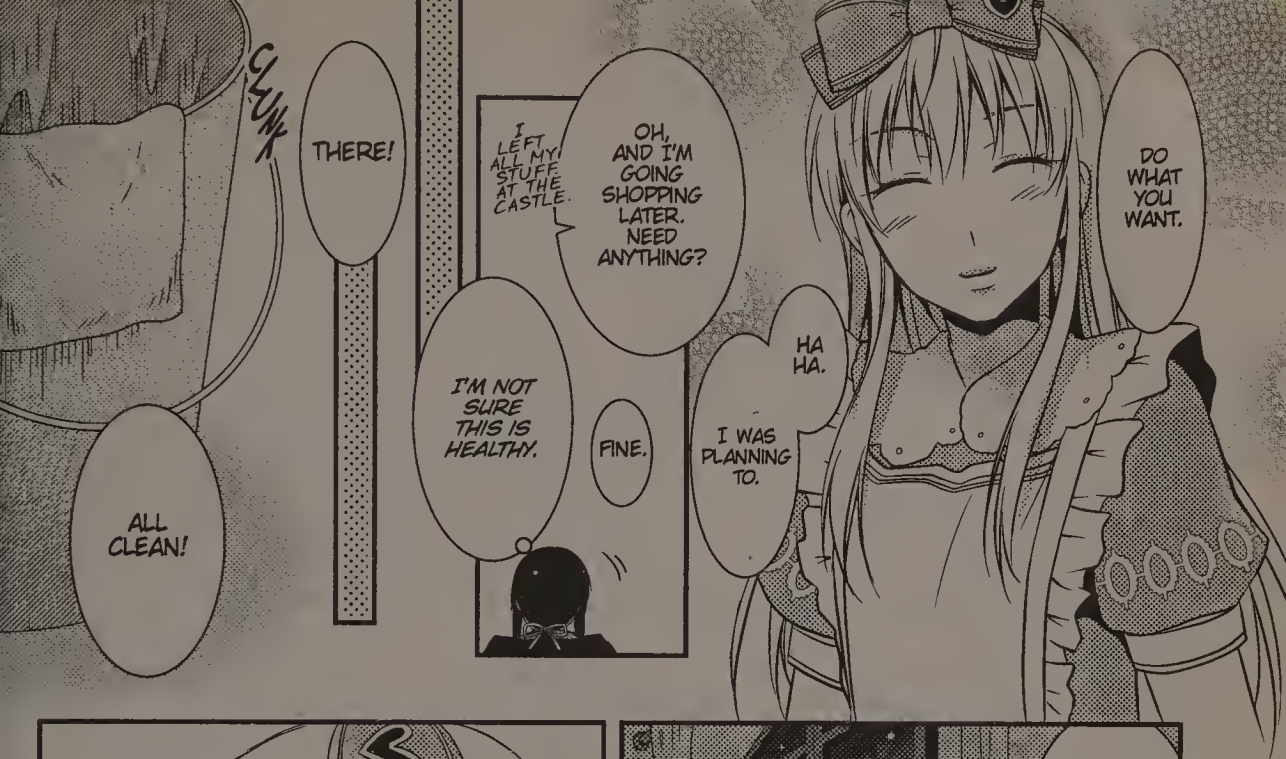
SHE TRIED LOOKING FOR ONE.

OTHER THAN THE WORKPLACE AND THE KITCHEN, THERE'S ONLY CLOSETS THAT COULDN'T FIT A HUMAN BEING AND WEIRD GEARS ALL OVER THE PLACE.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE EASY FOR ME TO STAY, SINCE THE CLOCK TOWER IS SO HUGE. BUT HE WASN'T KIDDING ABOUT "ONE LIVABLE ROOM."

YIKES.

URR. RGH.



CLUNK

THERE!

I LEFT ALL MY STUFF AT THE CASTLE.

OH, AND I'M GOING SHOPPING LATER. NEED ANYTHING?

DO WHAT YOU WANT.

HA HA.

I WAS PLANNING TO.

FINE.

I'M NOT SURE THIS IS HEALTHY.

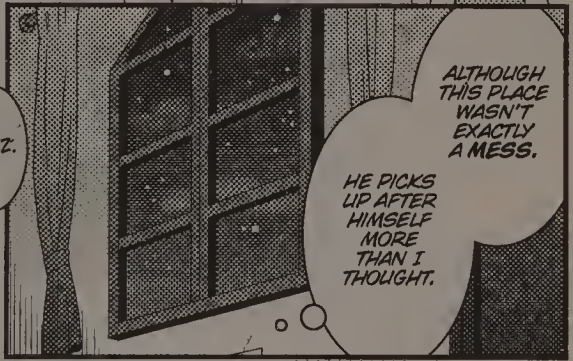
ALL CLEAN!



JEEZ.

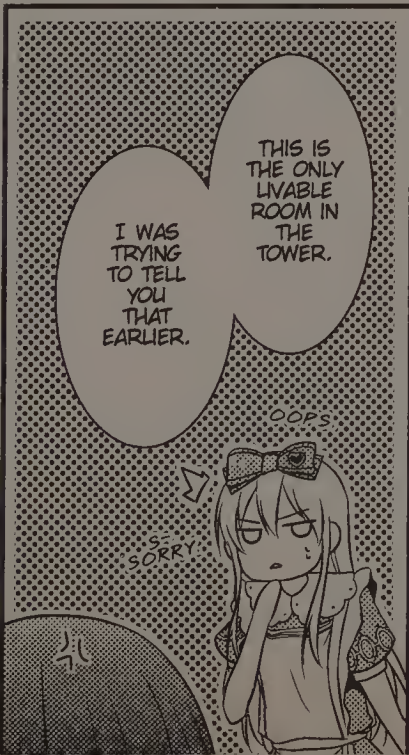
WE'RE IN NIGHT NOW?

YAWN...



ALTHOUGH THIS PLACE WASN'T EXACTLY A MESS.

HE PICKS UP AFTER HIMSELF MORE THAN I THOUGHT.

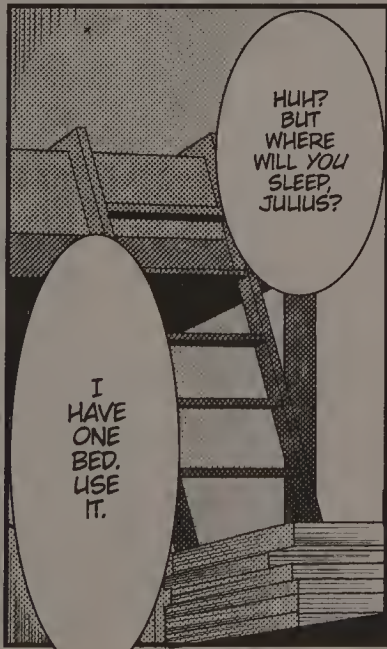


I WAS TRYING TO TELL YOU THAT EARLIER.

THIS IS THE ONLY LIVABLE ROOM IN THE TOWER.

OOPS

S-SORRY!



HUH? BUT WHERE WILL YOU SLEEP, JULIUS?

I HAVE ONE BED. USE IT.

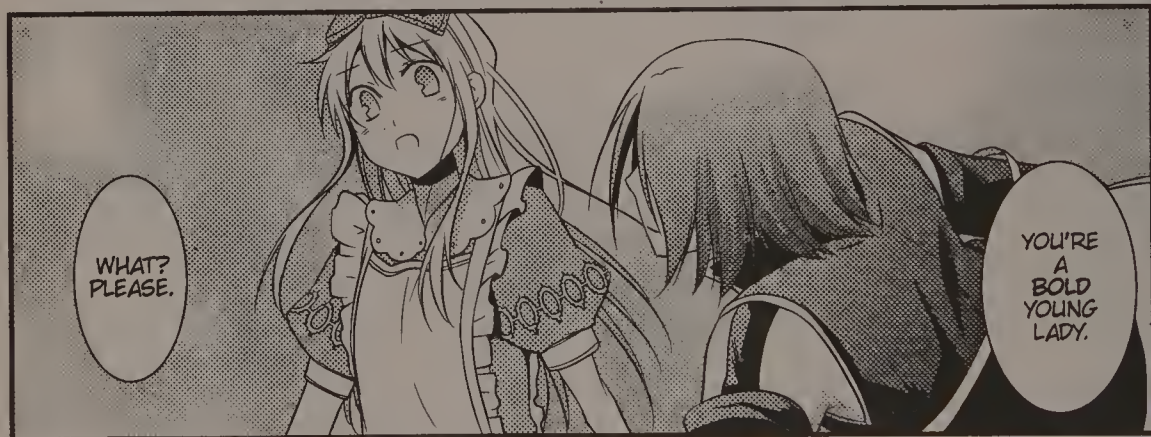
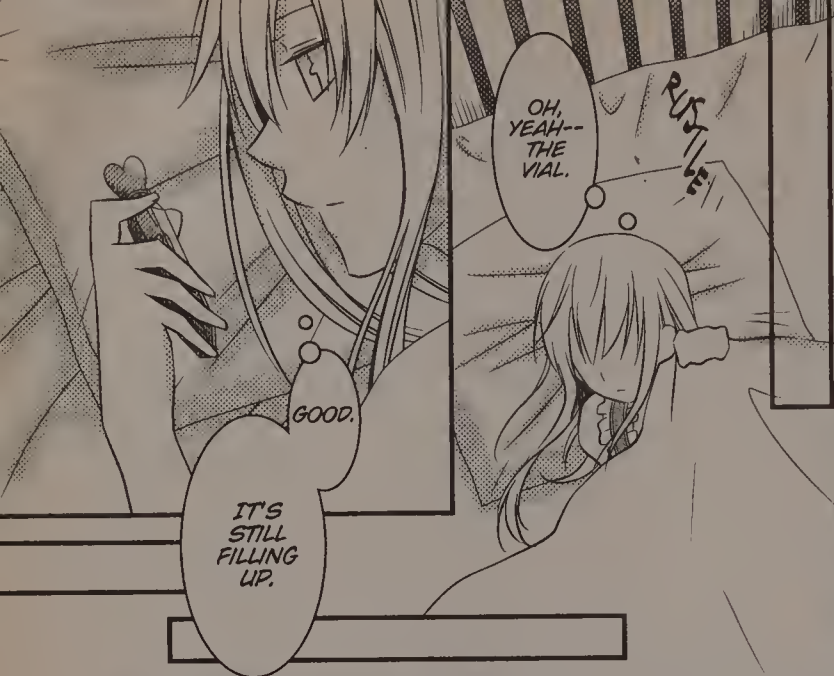


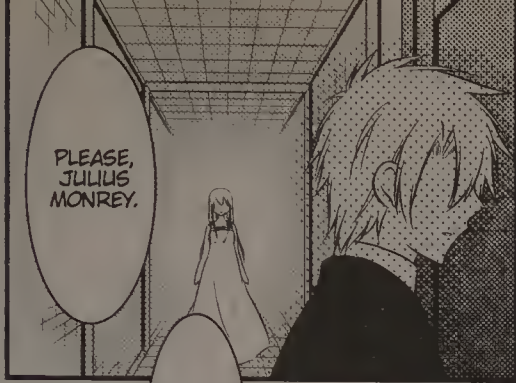
BLINK

NIGHT-TIME MAKES ME SLEEPY.

ERG.

IF YOU'RE TIRED, USE THAT BED.





PLEASE,
JULIUS
MONREY.



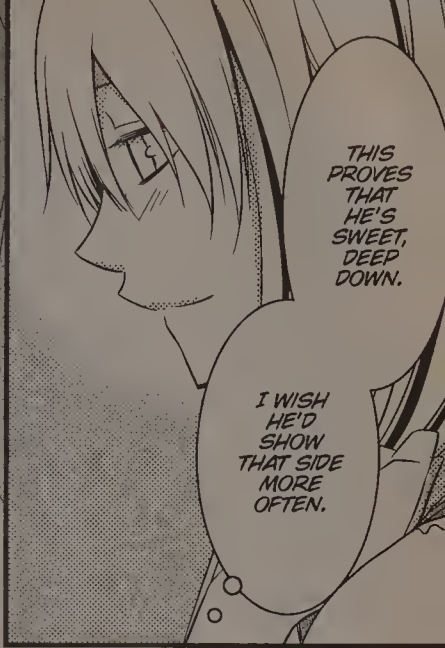
A CUS-
TOMER?

THIS
PLACE
IS SO
BUSY.



AND
THIS
IS A
DREAM.

I CAN
BE A
LITTLE
NEEDY,
RIGHT?



THIS
PROVES
THAT
HE'S
SWEET,
DEEP
DOWN.

I WISH
HE'D
SHOW
THAT SIDE
MORE
OFTEN.



CLICK

SOMEONE
BEARING
MORE
WORK.



WHO
WAS
THAT,
JULIUS?



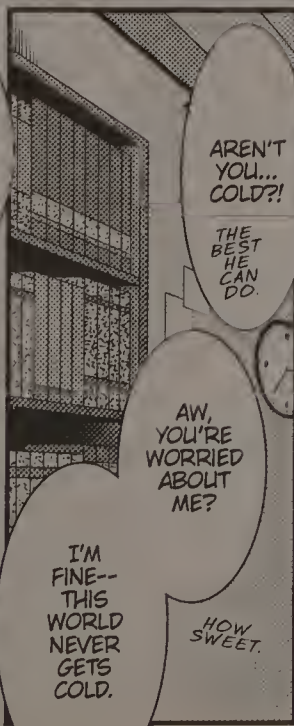
I
PROMISE
I WON'T
GET SICK,
JULIUS.

ER...
GOOD.

WHEW!

I'M
BEAT.

I CAN'T
STOP
YAWNING.



AREN'T
YOU...
COLD?!

THE
BEST
HE
CAN
DO.

AW,
YOU'RE
WORRIED
ABOUT
ME?

I'M
FINE--
THIS
WORLD
NEVER
GETS
COLD.

HOW
SWEET.



HUH?

MY
NEGLIGEE.
I SLEPT
IN IT.

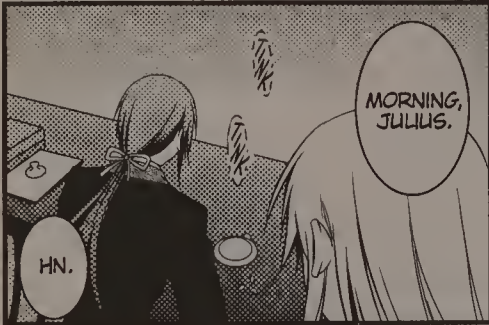
WH-WHAT
IN THE
WORLD
ARE YOU
WEARING
?!



I SLEPT LIKE A LOG.

YAWN.

Shift



MORNING, JULIUS.

HN.



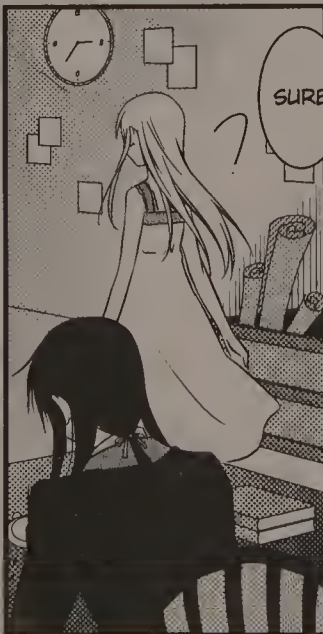
YES.

WERE YOU WORKING THIS WHOLE TIME?



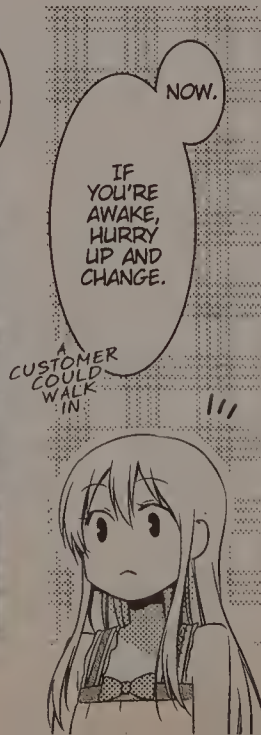
THANKS.

I SLEPT GREAT UP THERE.



SURE.

... KA-CHUNK



IF YOU'RE AWAKE, HURRY UP AND CHANGE.

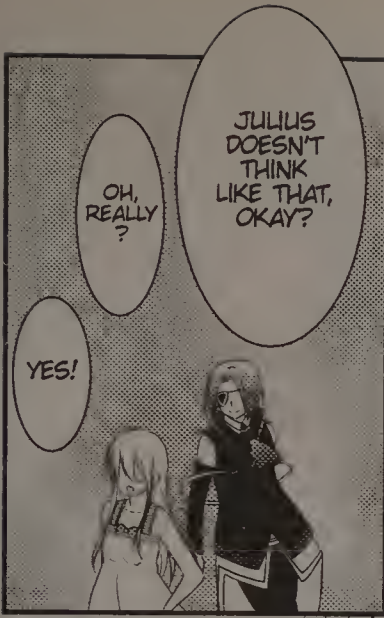
A CUSTOMER COULD WALK IN

NOW.



DON'T OVERDO IT.

SEE? SAME OLD JULIUS.



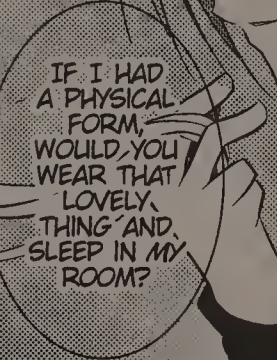
OH,
REALLY
?

JULIUS
DOESN'T
THINK
LIKE THAT,
OKAY?

YES!



QUIT
IT.

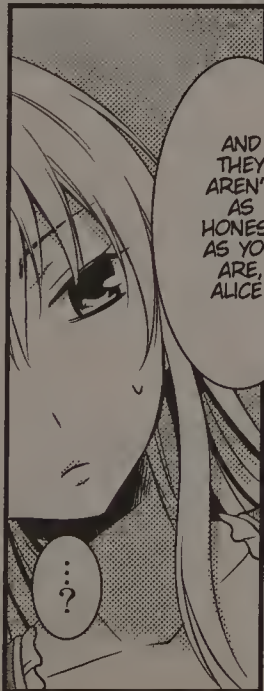


IF I HAD
A PHYSICAL
FORM,
WOULD YOU
WEAR THAT
LOVELY
THING AND
SLEEP IN MY
ROOM?



HIS HEAD
ISN'T
EVEN
CLOSE
TO THE
GUTTER.

WHEN I
CAME TO
THE CLOCK
TOWER,
HE SAID IT
WASN'T A
"DAYCARE."



...
?



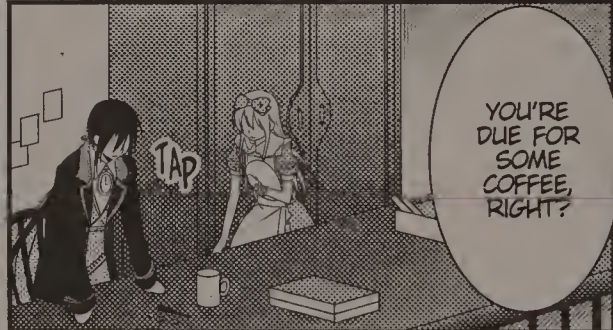
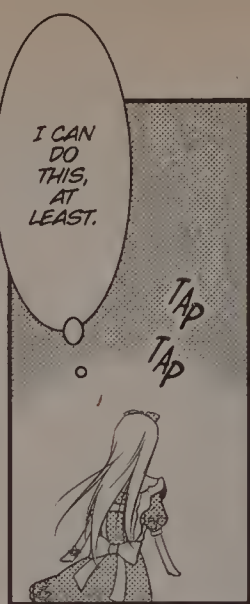
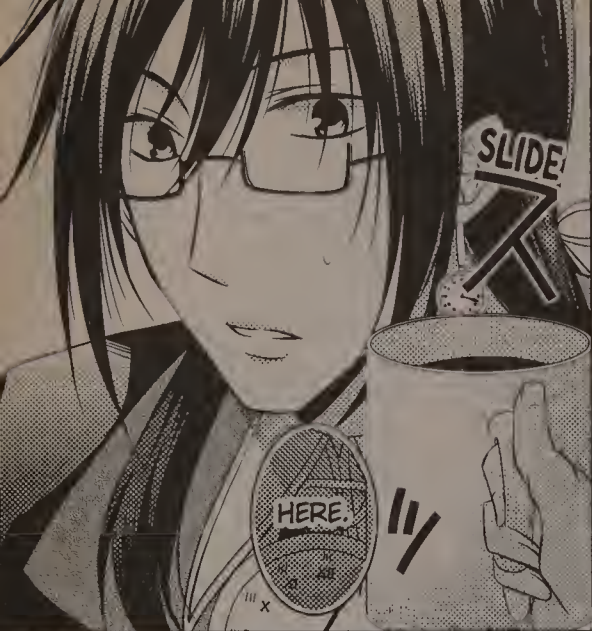
ARE
MEN.

AND
THEY
AREN'T
AS
HONEST
AS YOU
ARE,
ALICE.

THE
MEN IN
THIS
WORLD...



WHAT
?



SINCE
THAT
NIGHT...

I'VE
BEEN
LIVING
IN THE
CLOCK
TOWER.

CREAK

THIS IS
GOING
TO KILL
ME.

DINNER'S
READY!

IT'S
GONNA
GET
COLD
AGAIN...

THERE'S
A
PATTERN
HERE.

I'LL
EAT
LATER.

BUT IT'S
HIS
HOUSE.

AND IT'S
KINDA...
IMPRESSIVE
THAT
HE'S SO
DEDICATED.

HE WON'T
LISTEN
WHEN I
TRY TO
GET HIM
TO BED.

AND
MORE
WORK.

UNHEALTHY
LIFESTYLE.

LACK OF SLEEP.

WORK.

HERMIT TENDENCIES.

WORK.

LEAVE
ME BE.

TAKE A
BREAK!

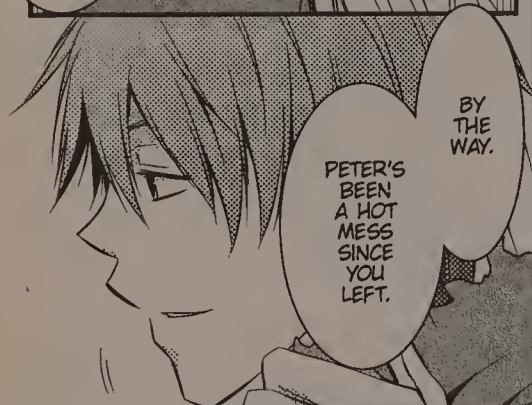


HA HA!

DAAAAMN. RELAX OR YOU'LL HURT HIS FEELINGS.

I'M JUST STAYING HERE AWHILE! DON'T EVEN JOKE!

FLUSTER



BY THE WAY.

PETER'S BEEN A HOT MESS SINCE YOU LEFT.



NO!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU GUYS SEALED THE DEAL.

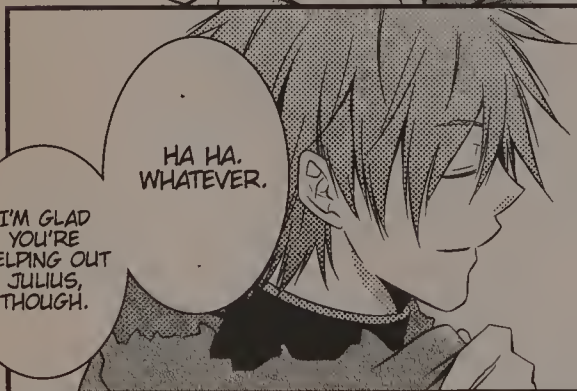
ARE YOU JULIUS'S HOUSEWIFE NOW?

IGNORE HIM.

CLATTER

MUNCH MUNCH

HE'S LEARNED.

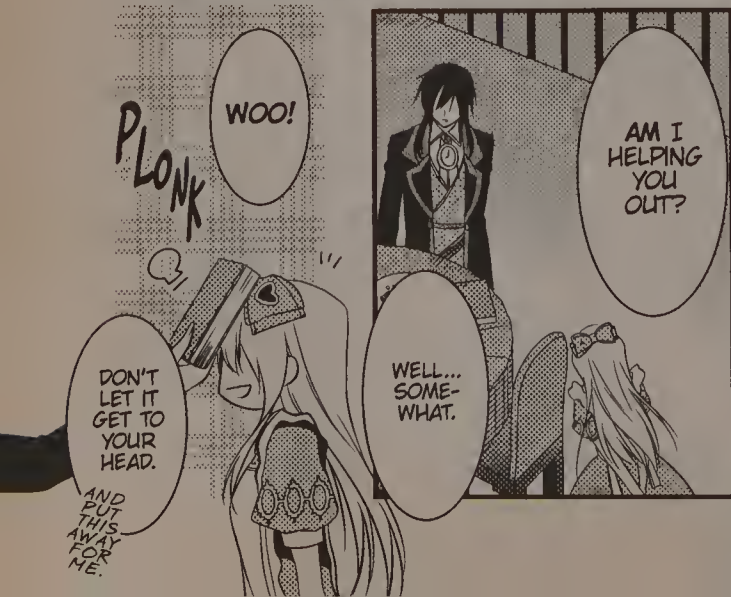


HA HA. WHATEVER.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE HELPING OUT JULIUS, THOUGH.



I DON'T CARE ABOUT PETER.



PLONK

WOO!

AM I HELPING YOU OUT?

WELL... SOMEWHAT.

DON'T LET IT GET TO YOUR HEAD.

AND PUT THIS AWAY FOR ME.



KA-CHUNK

I'LL GET TO WORK.

I'VE GOTTA MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME.

CLINK

NNGH.

I CAN'T
TELL
HER AND
INFLATE
HER
EGO.

BUT
SHE'S
USEFUL
HERE.

AND...
THOUGHT-
FUL.

KA-
CHUNK

I
HATE
TO
ADMIT
IT...

AND
GET
THAT
BOOK
OFF
THE
TABLE!

IT'S
NOT!

IT'S THE
SAME
IF YOU
REHEAT
IT.

I WISH
YOU
COULD
EAT THE
FOOD
WHEN
I MAKE
IT.

I THINK
I DID A
PRETTY
GOOD
JOB
TODAY.

KA-
CHAK

WHOA.
I WAS
WONDERING
WHERE
YOU
DISAPPEARED
TO.

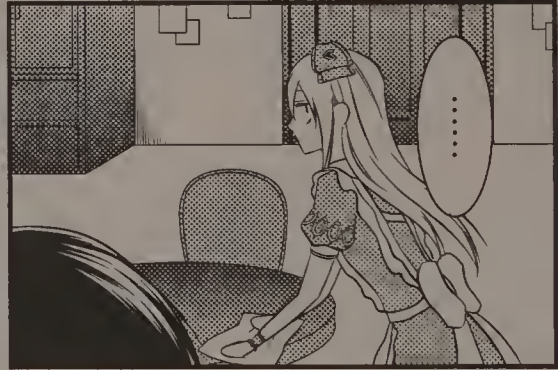
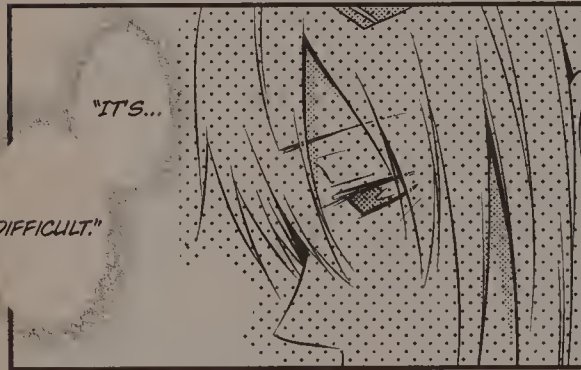
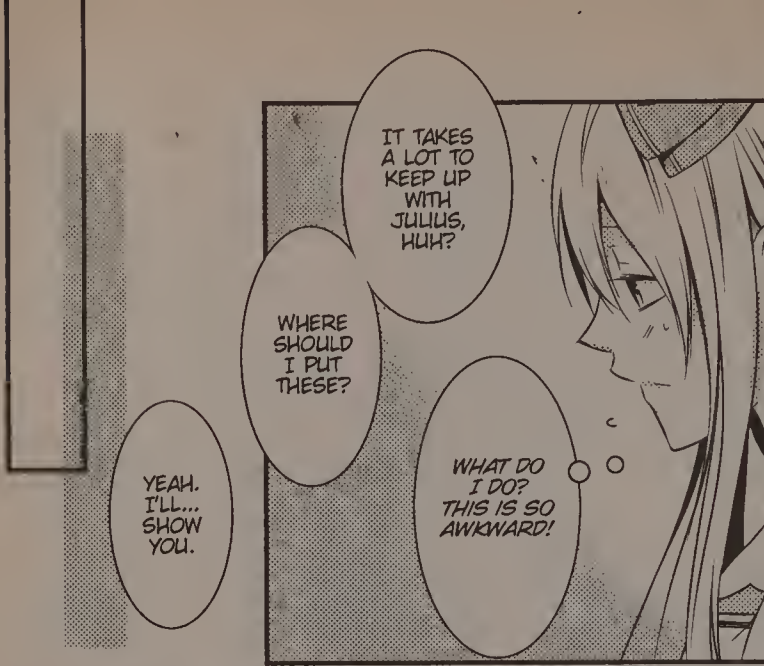
HUH?
ALICE!

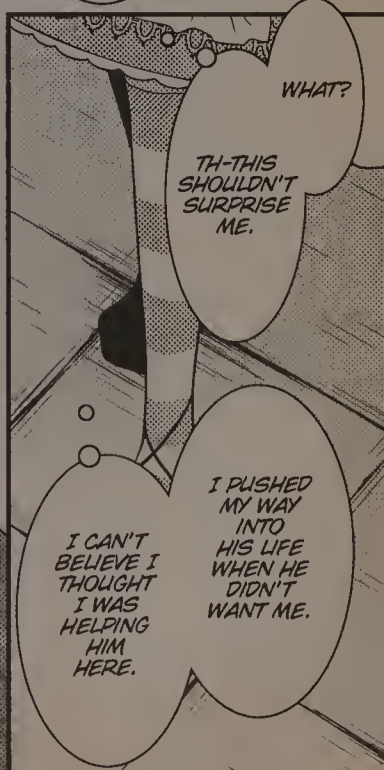
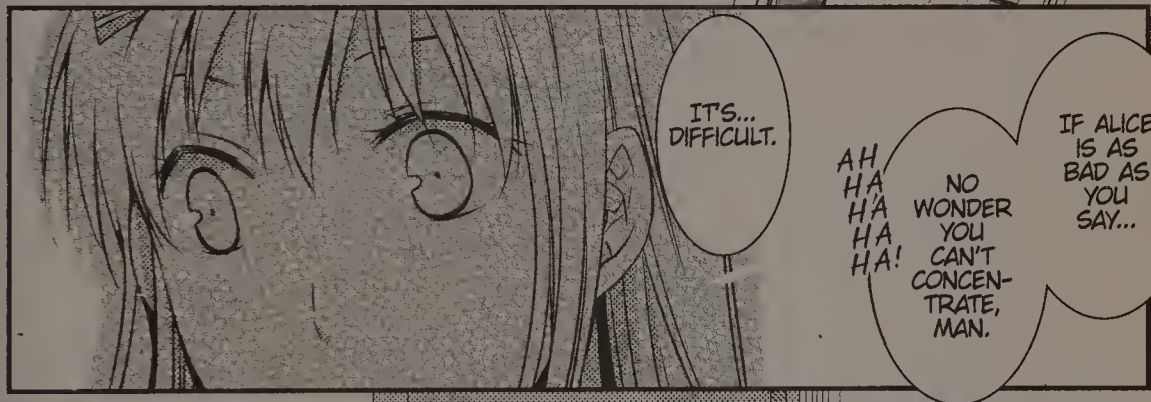
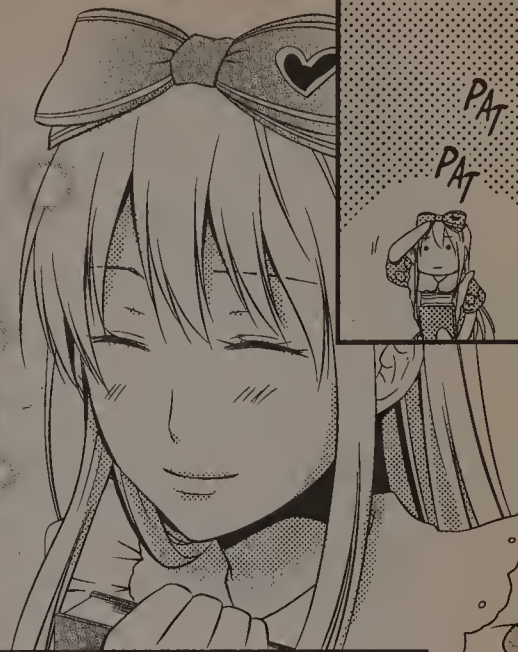
HEY.

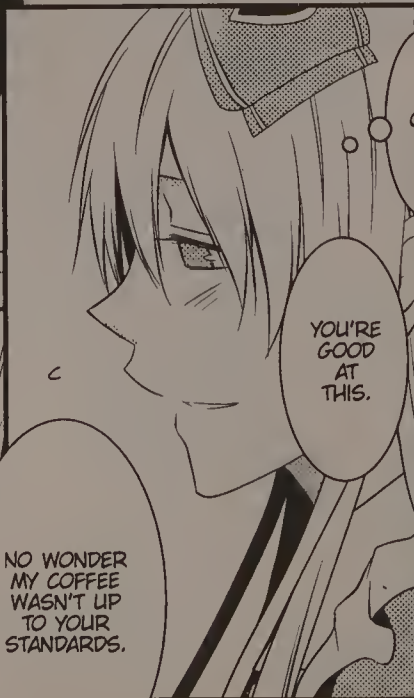
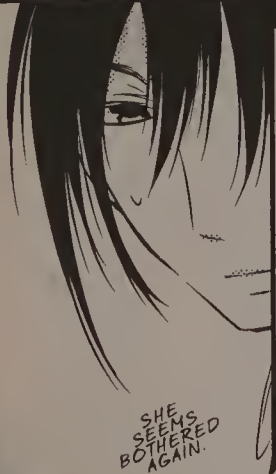
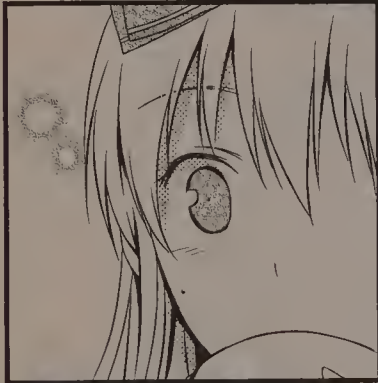
SORRY
I'M
LATE!

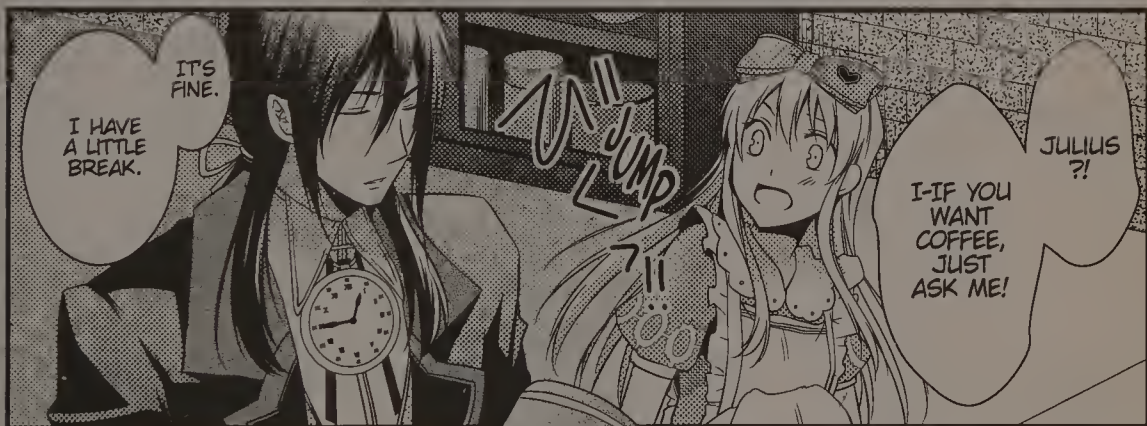
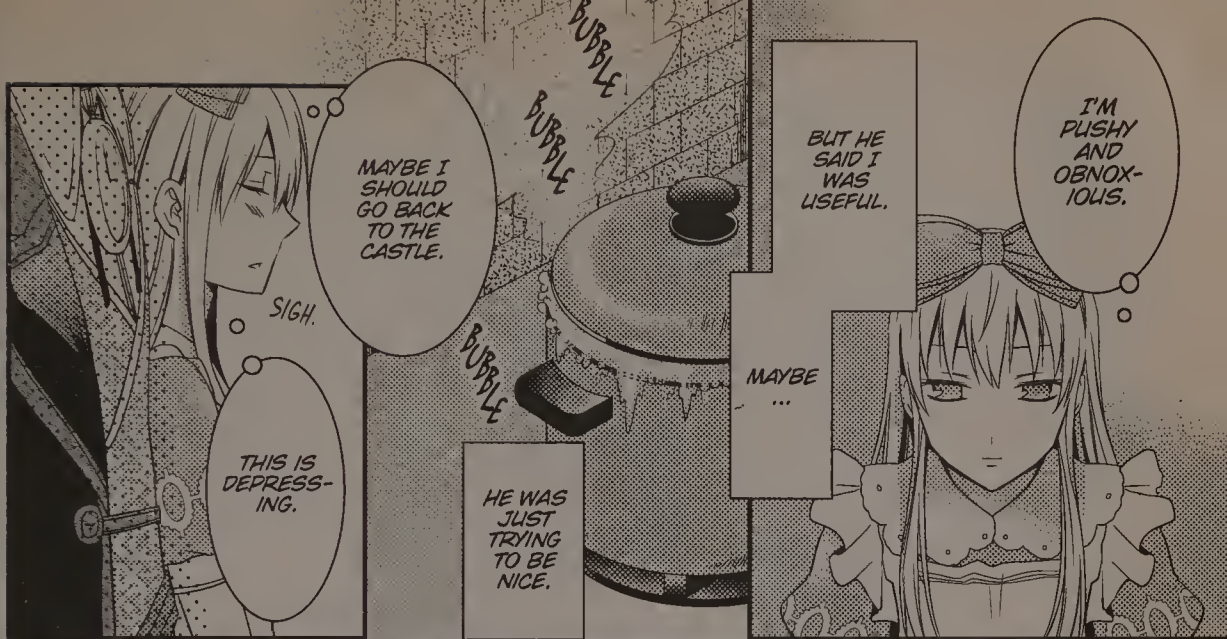
I DIDN'T
THINK
I'D GET
LOST FOR
TWENTY
TIME
PERIODS!
HA HA!

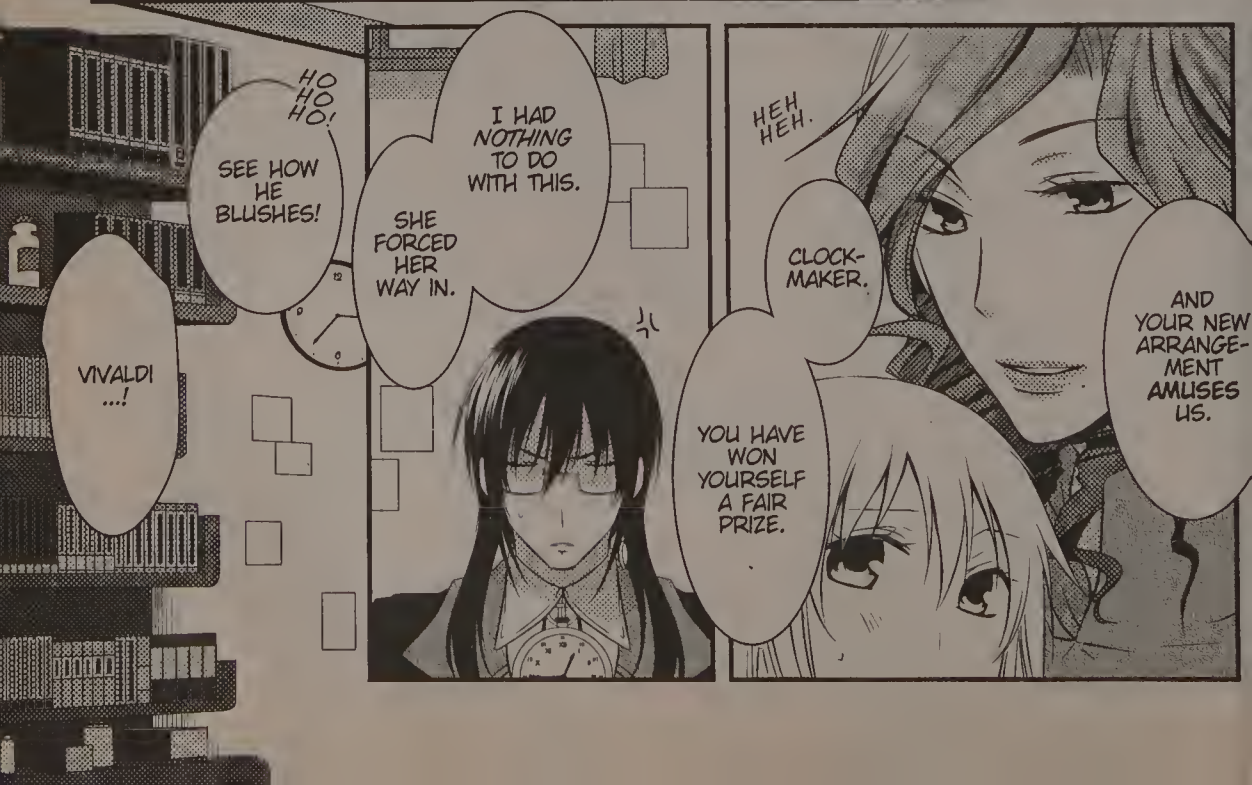
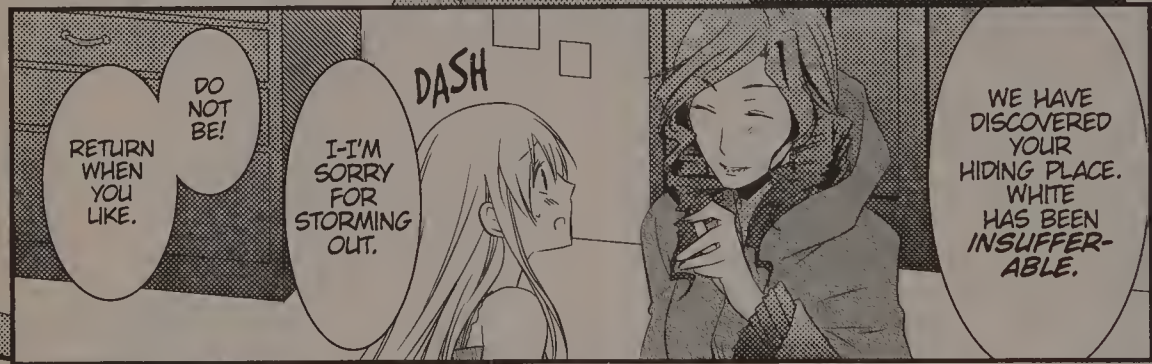
FLINCH











"EXACTLY
HOW MANY
POINTS
DO YOU
CONSIDER
'DRINK-
ABLE'?"

YOU'RE
UP TO
75
POINTS.

KEEP
PRAC-
TICING.

PAT

I'LL
GET
BETTER!

I...

"AROUND
75."

I GET
IT,
JEEZ.

AND
DON'T
WANDER
AROUND
LIKE
THAT--
GO TO
BED.

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
IT.

HI.

NEW
WORK
WALK
IN?

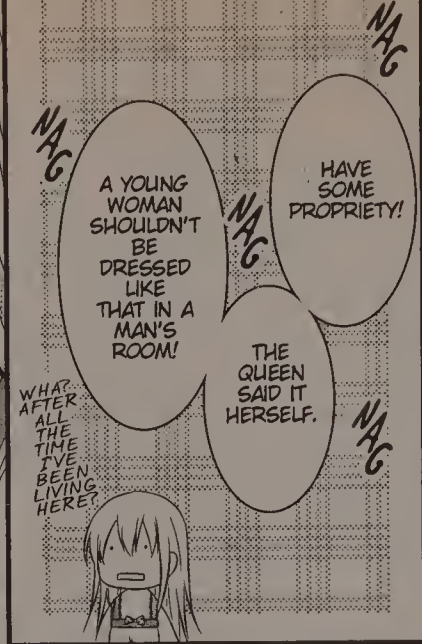


PFFT!

I DON'T
THINK
JULIUS HAS
A LOT OF
EXPERIENCE
WITH
WOMEN.

MAYBE
I'M HIS
FIRST
FEMALE
FRIEND.

THIS WAS
BUGGING
HIM?



NA/G

A YOUNG
WOMAN
SHOULDN'T
BE
DRESSED
LIKE
THAT IN A
MAN'S
ROOM!

WHAT?
AFTER
ALL THE
TIME I'VE
BEEN
LIVING
HERE?

NA/G

THE
QUEEN
SAID IT
HERSELF.

HAVE
SOME
PROPRIETY!

NA/G



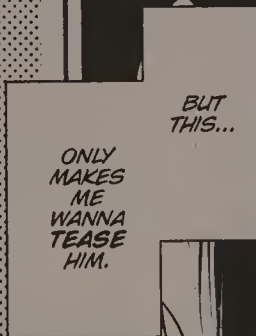
IT'S A
PRETTY
NORMAL
NIGHT-
GOWN.

THAT
SLIP IS
INDECENT.



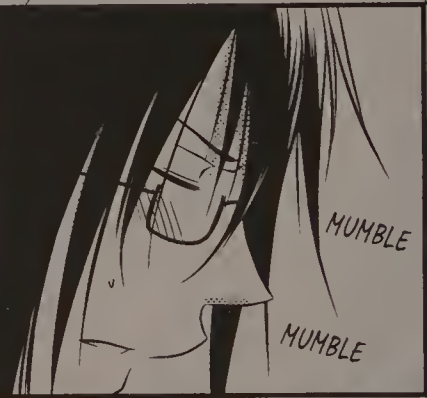
FOGET

LOOK
AT HIM.
SQUEE.



BUT
THIS...

ONLY
MAKES
ME
WANNA
TEASE
HIM.



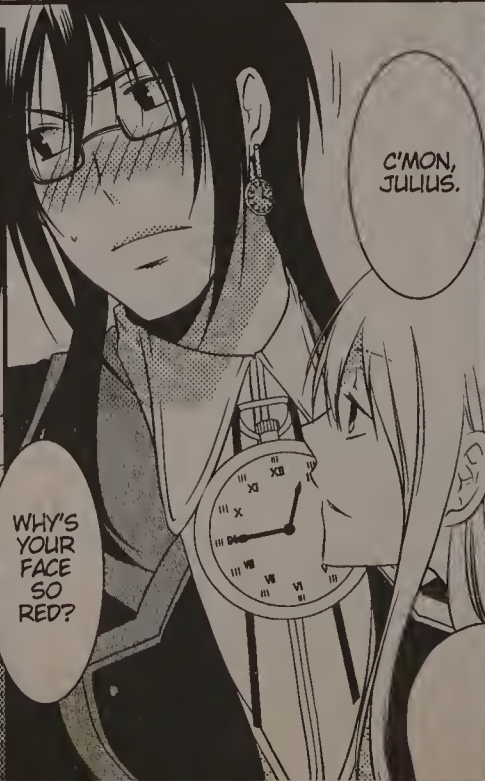
MUMBLE

MUMBLE

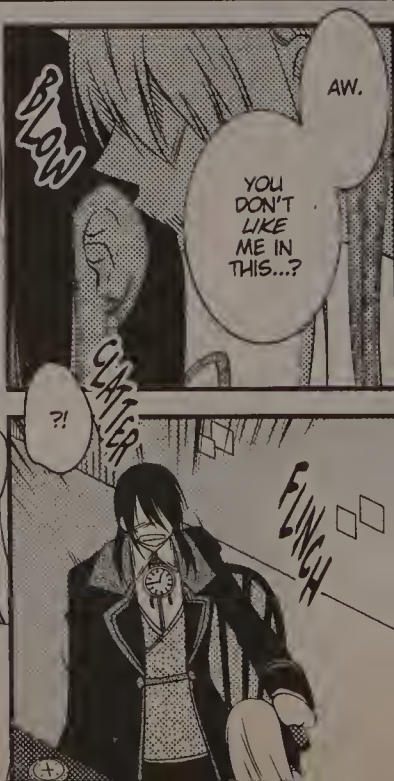


SQUEE!

WHY'S
YOUR
FACE
SO
RED?



C'MON,
JULIUS.



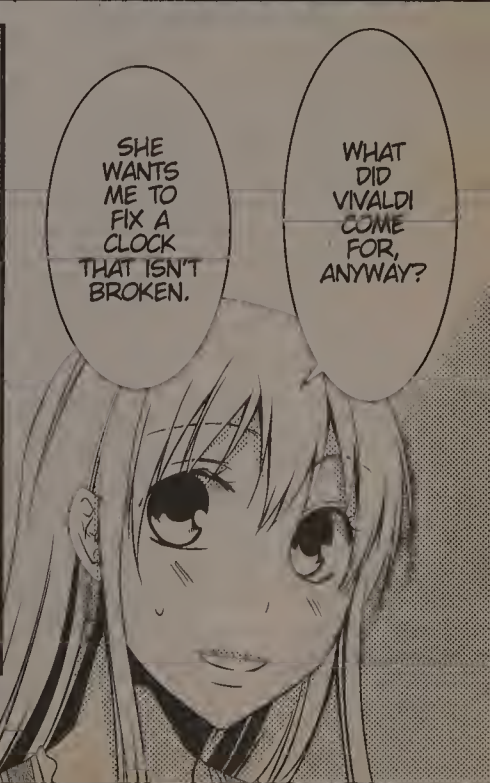
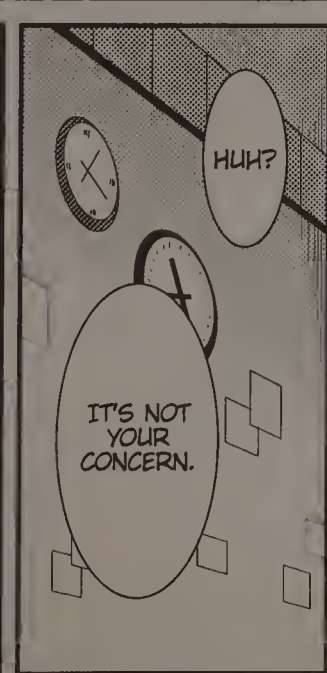
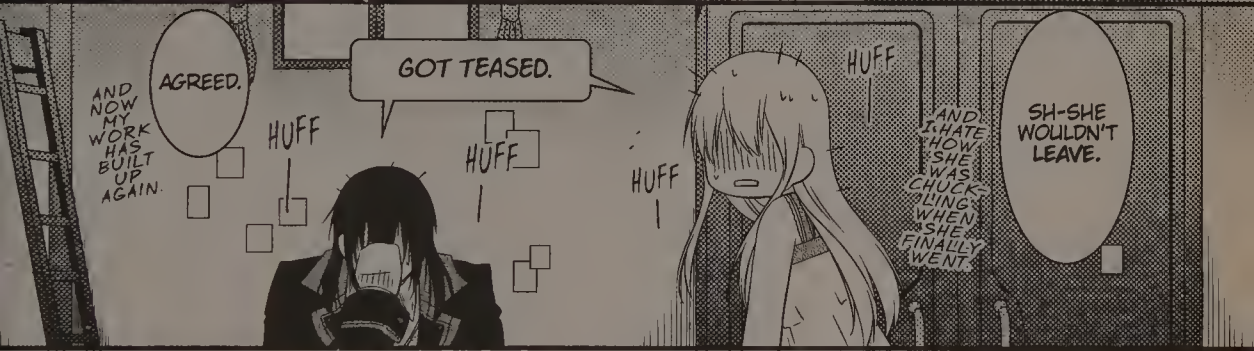
AW.

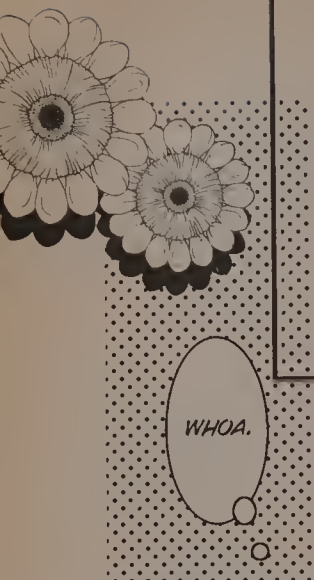
YOU
DON'T
LIKE
ME IN
THIS...?

CLATTER

?!

FLING





WHOA.

DON'T PROVOKE THEIR... URGES!

ALICE.

MEN CAN BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

UM...

PUSH ME OFF, DAMN YOU!!

FW/P

HUH? UH...

CHUFF

*RUDE.

BA-DUMP

I GUESS ...

HE'S NOT A TOTAL COLD FISH.

BA-DUMP

I THOUGHT JULIUS WASN'T INTO GIRLS! I MEAN... THAT CAME OUT WRONG.

BA-DUMP

DID NOT EXPECT THAT.

BA-DUMP

THE WAY HE SMELLED A LITTLE LIKE MECHANICAL OIL...

WAS HIS BIG HAND ON MY CHEEK.

I COULDN'T PROCESS.

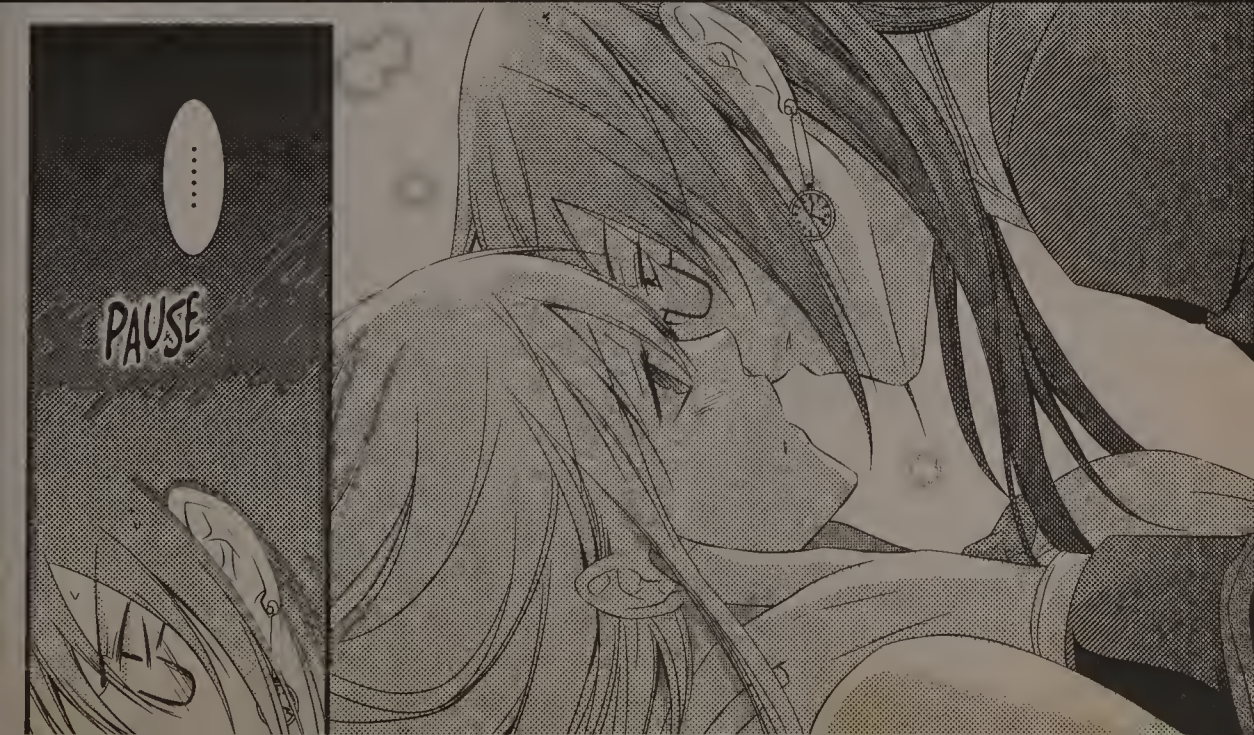
ALL I KNEW...

!

WHEN HIS MOUTH TOUCHED ME...

I COULDN'T EVEN THINK.

HIS SILKY HAIR BRUSHING MY CHEST.





I'VE
TOLD
YOU--
I'M
FINE.

I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU!

YOUR
BODY
CAN'T
TAKE
THIS.

YOU
HAVEN'T
SLEPT
FOR OVER
TEN TIME
PERIODS!

WHAT'S
THIS,
ALL OF A
SUDDEN?



JULIUS,
LISTEN!

I-I
THINK
YOU
NEED
MORE
SLEEP.



HE'S
LOOKING
AT ME
WEIRD.



!



NO!
I'M
FINE!

THINK
ABOUT
YOURSELF,
JULIUS!

BUT
YOU
MUST
BE
TIRED.



MAYBE
I HAVE
BEEN
OVERDOING
IT.



WELL...

POINT
TAKEN.



BA-DUMP

MY HEART'S POUNDING LIKE CRAZY.

BA-DUMP

WRONG WITH ME.

THERE'S SOMETHING...

...AND THAT I SAW MY REFLECTION IN HIS EYES.



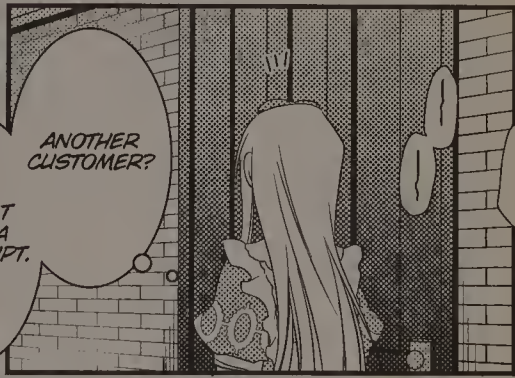
?! ...



GLANCE

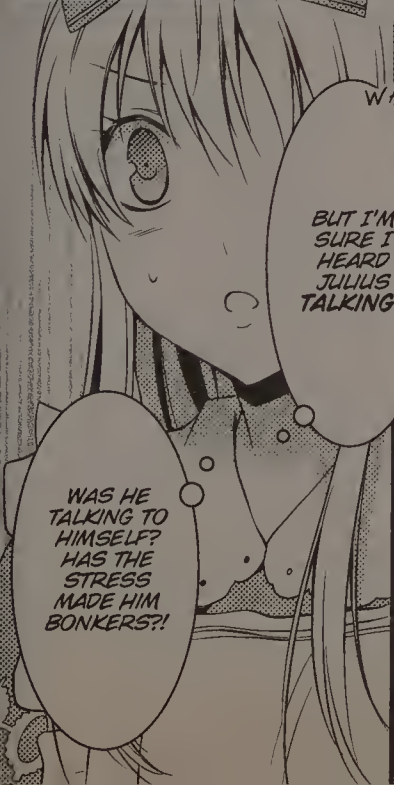
KA-CHAK

I DON'T WANNA INTERRUPT.



ANOTHER CUSTOMER?

!



WAIT!

BUT I'M SURE I HEARD JULIUS TALKING!

WAS HE TALKING TO HIMSELF? HAS THE STRESS MADE HIM BONKERS?!



I WAS ALONE.

ARE YOU HALLUCINATING NOW?

THAT'S WEIRD.



KA-CHAK F-w,



JULIUS!

WHAT? WHY ARE YOU YELLING?

HUH? I THOUGHT I SAW... SHADOWS.



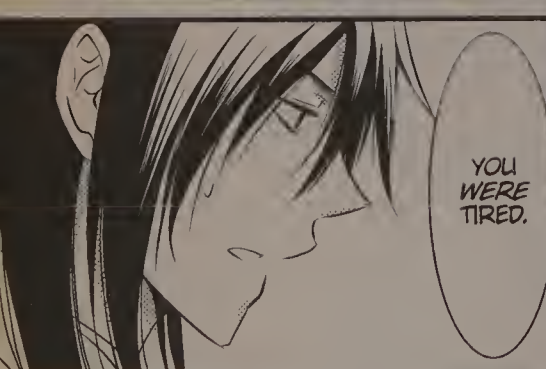
I NEED TO CLEAR MY HEAD.

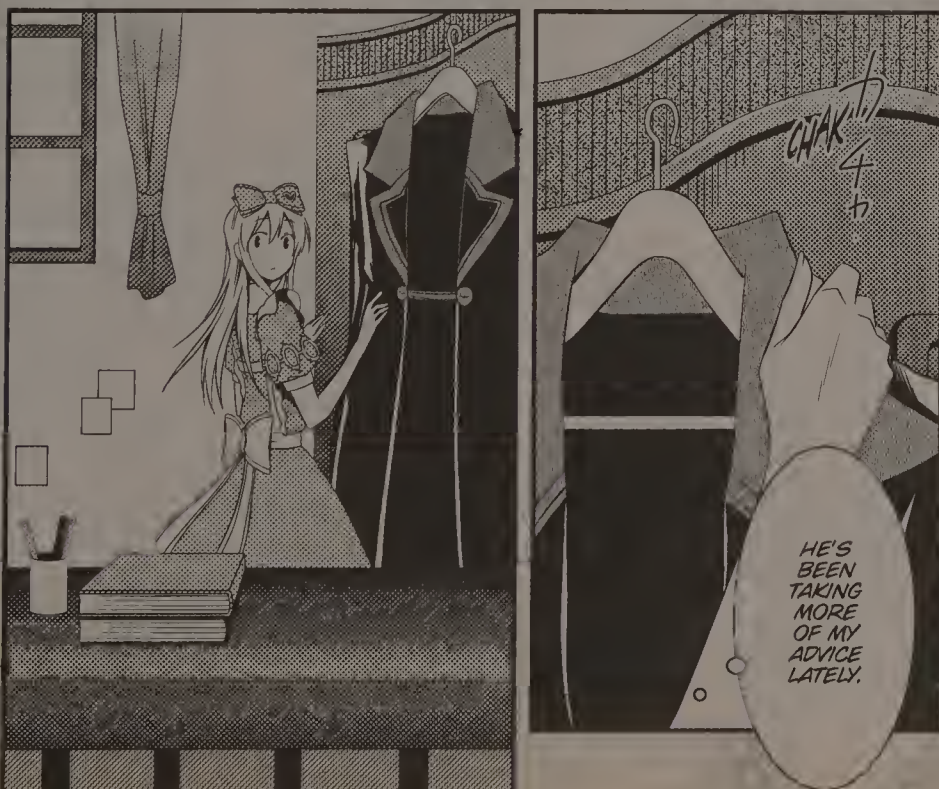
I HAVEN'T DONE ANY READING IN A WHILE...

H-HE WAS JUST GIVING ME A HARD TIME!

IT DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING.

AND HE HASN'T TALKED ABOUT IT.





MUMBLE

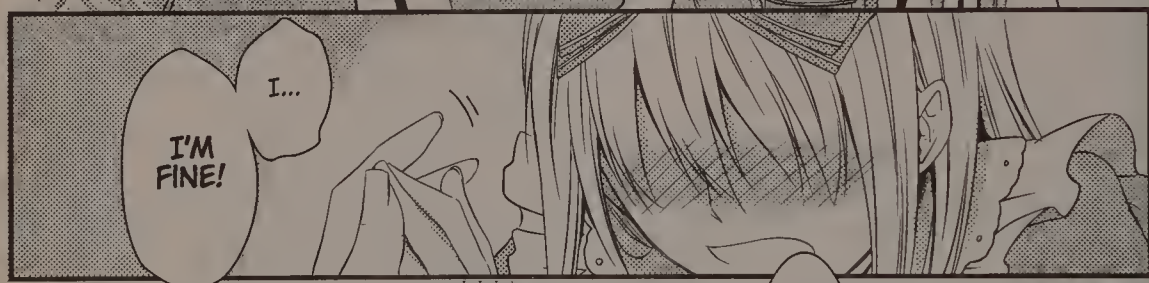
I'M WEAK AGAINST HER.



GIVE
YOUR
BODY
WHAT IT
NEEDS.

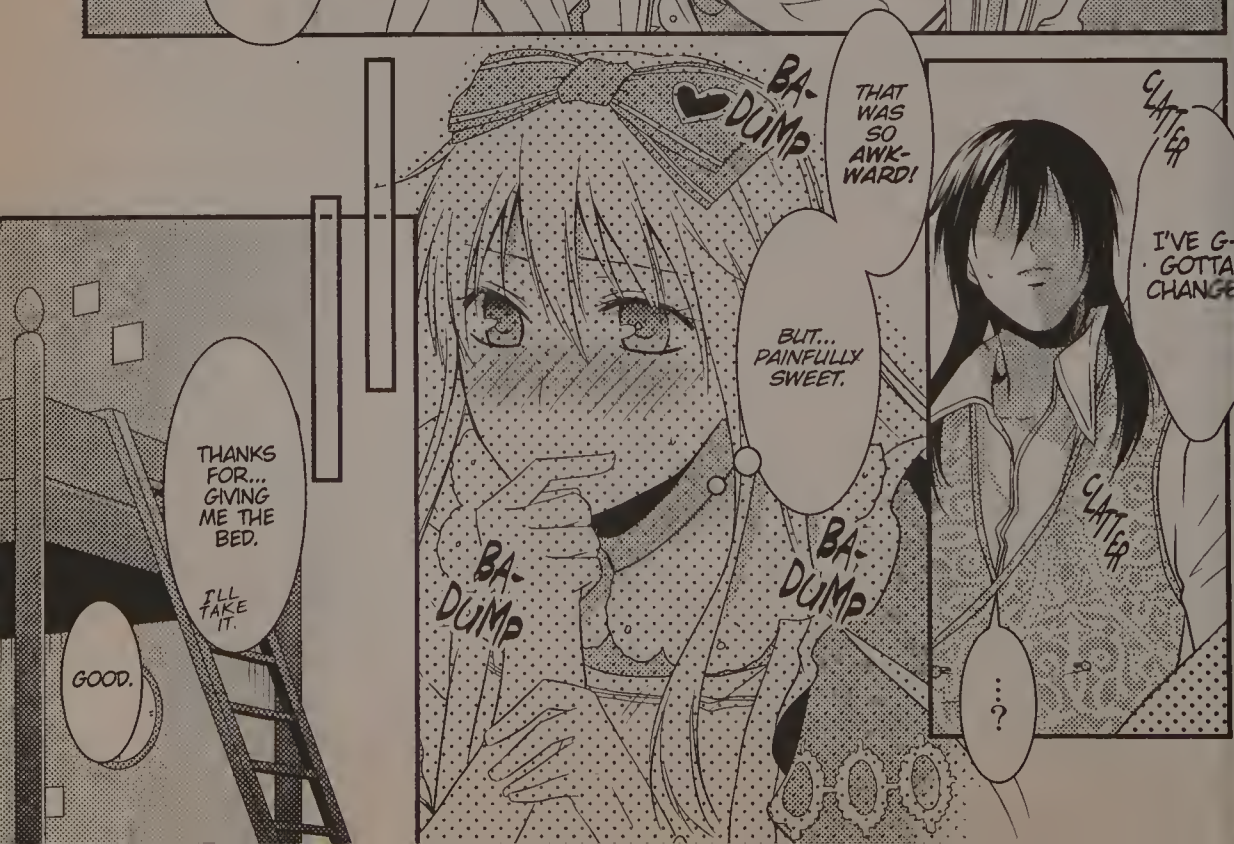
IF
YOU'RE
TIRED...

YOU
SHOULD
LIE
DOWN.



I'M
FINE!

I...



THAT
WAS
SO
AWK-
WARD!

BUT...
PAINFULLY
SWEET.

I'VE G-
GOTTA
CHANGE

THANKS
FOR...
GIVING
ME THE
BED.

I'LL
TAKE
IT.

GOOD.

?



LIKE
BEING
ROCKED
IN A
CRADLE.

...?
?

SO
WARM...



WHAA
?!

STRUGGLE

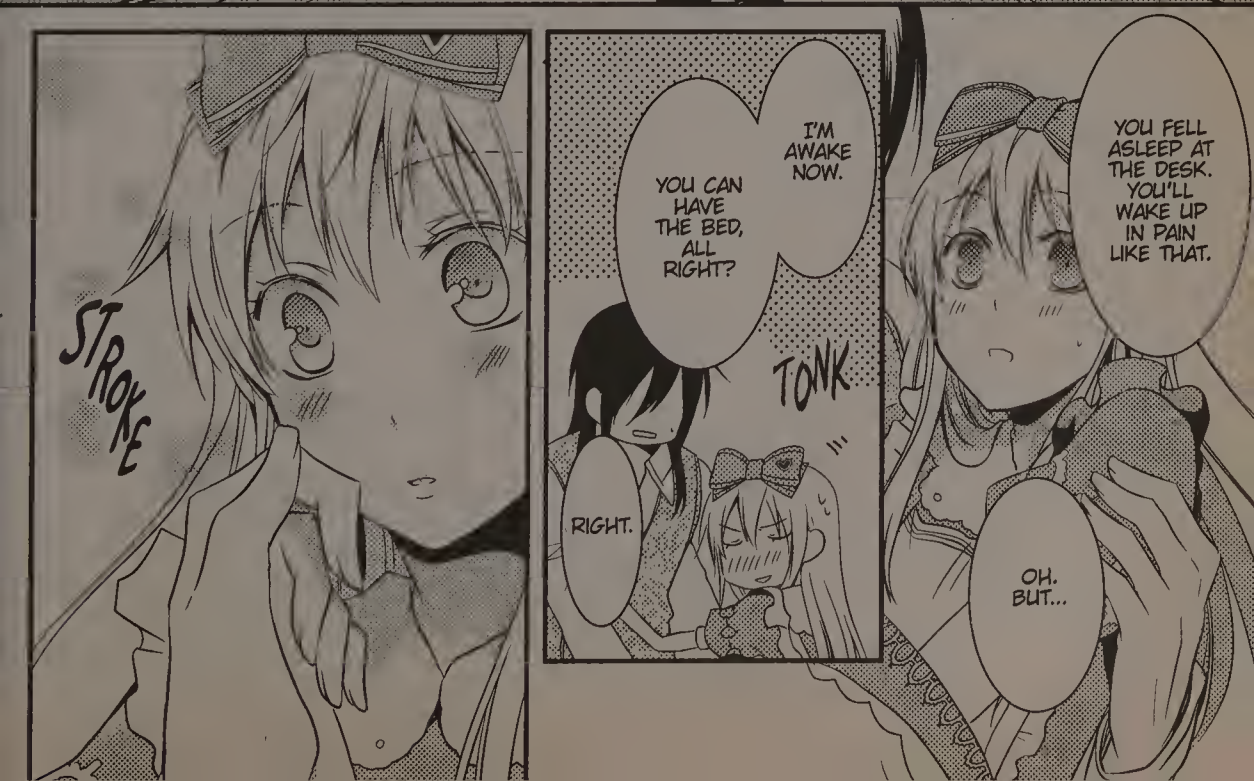
AGH!

GAAAH
!!

STRUGGLE

STOP
KICKING,
YOU IDIOT!
THIS IS
INNOCENT!

I'M
TAKING
YOU TO
BED!



STROKE

YOU CAN
HAVE
THE BED,
ALL
RIGHT?

I'M
AWAKE
NOW.

TOKK

RIGHT.

YOU FELL
ASLEEP AT
THE DESK.
YOU'LL
WAKE UP
IN PAIN
LIKE THAT.

OH.
BUT...



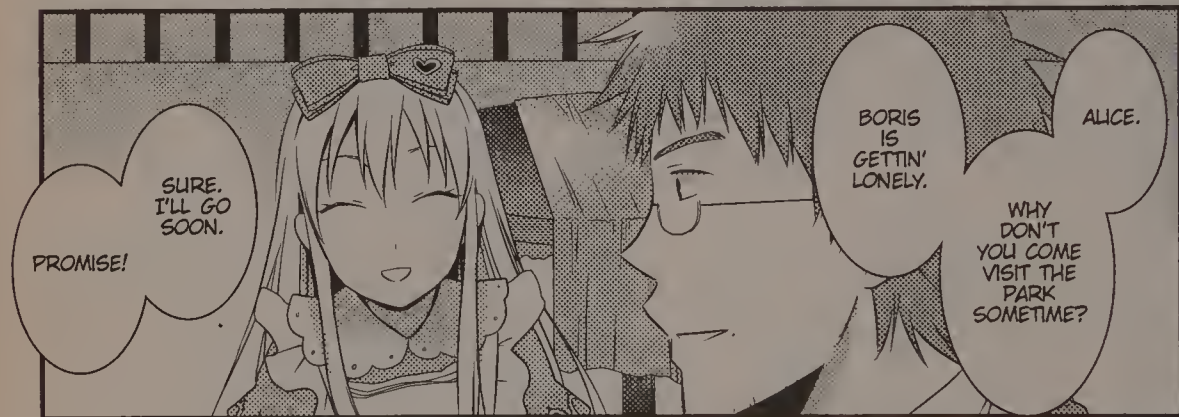
THANK
YOU
KINDLY!

FINE,
I'LL
DEAL
WITH
IT.



YOU
CAME
HERE TO
TALK
BUSINESS.

I
SURE
DID.



PROMISE!

SURE,
I'LL GO
SOON.

BORIS
IS
GETTIN'
LONELY.

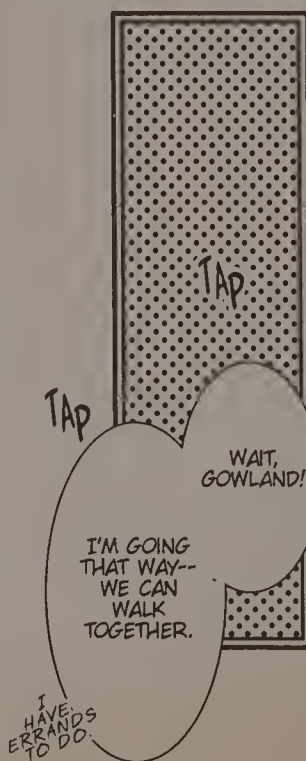
ALICE.

WHY
DON'T
YOU COME
VISIT THE
PARK
SOMETIME?



WHO?

HE'S
DEFINITELY
CHANGED.



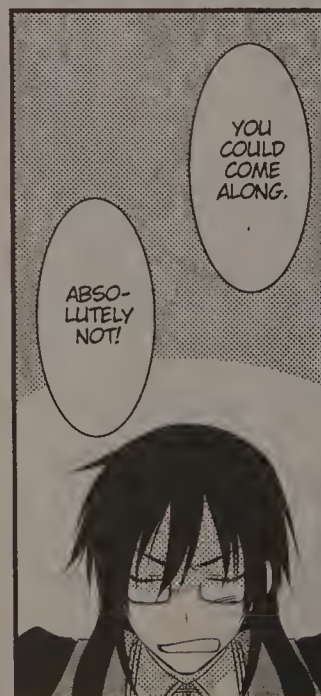
TAP

TAP

WAIT,
GOWLAND!

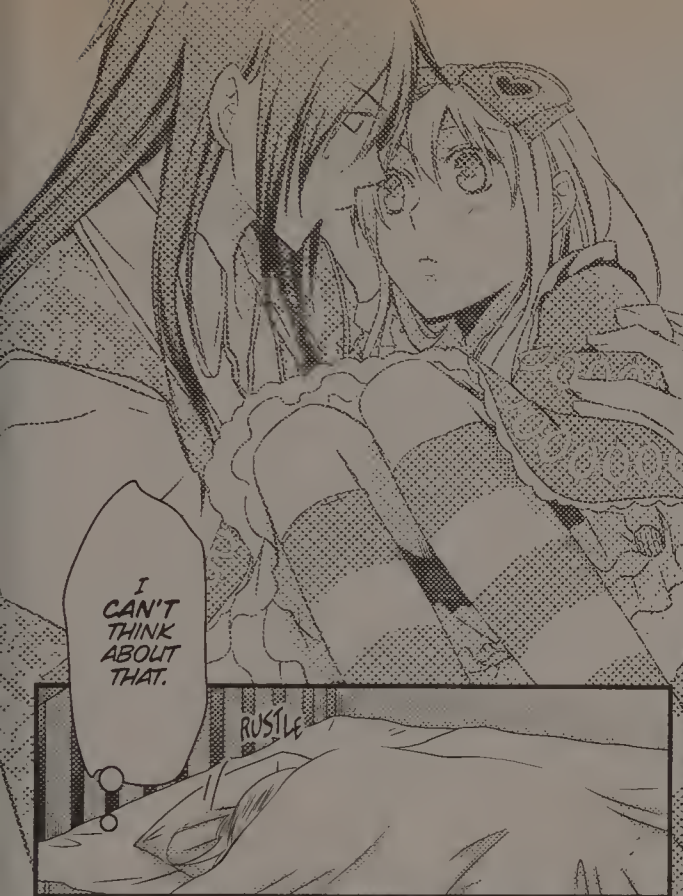
I'M GOING
THAT WAY--
WE CAN
WALK
TOGETHER.

I
HAVE
ERRANDS
TO DO.



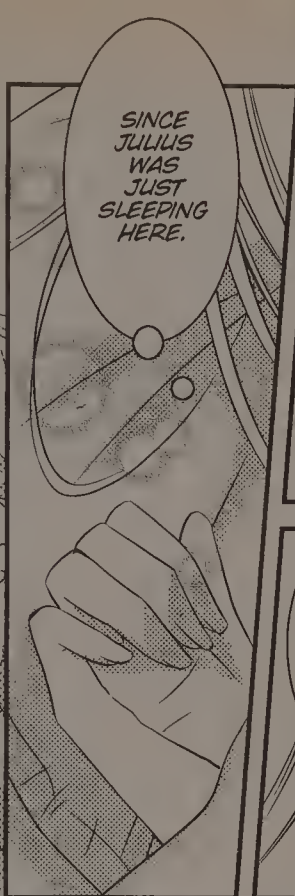
YOU
COULD
COME
ALONG.

ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT!

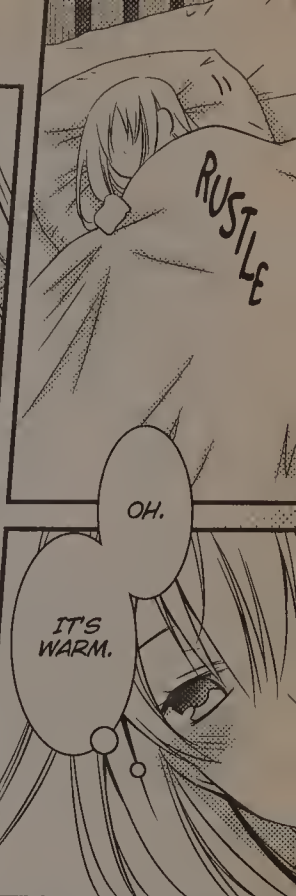


I CAN'T THINK ABOUT THAT.

RUSTLE



SINCE JULIUS WAS JUST SLEEPING HERE.



RUSTLE

OH.

IT'S WARM.



STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE ALL THE SAME!

GRN +

I SEE WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE.



I HAVE MY REASONS.

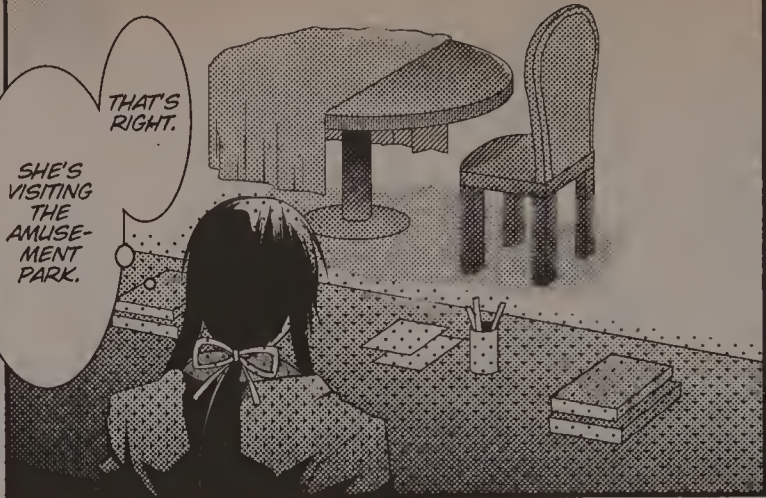
HEH.

WELL, I'LL BE.

WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE, ALICE?



I SAAAW THAT. ♥



THAT'S RIGHT.

SHE'S VISITING THE AMUSEMENT PARK.



NO.

SHE'S VISITING THE PARK.

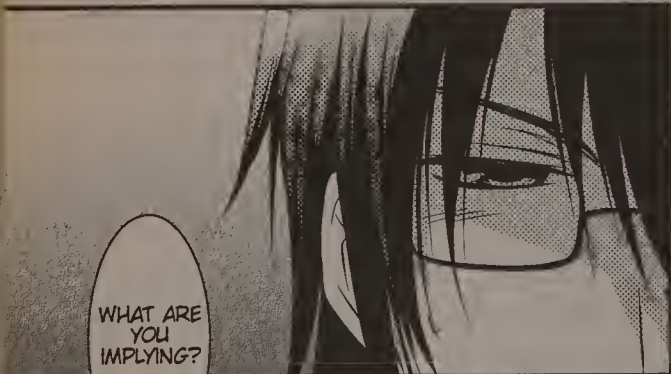


ALICE ISN'T HERE?

DAMN YOU, ACE.

TAP

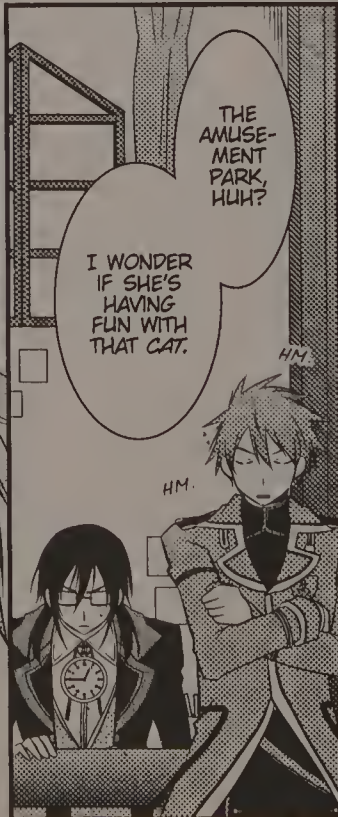
TAP



WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING?



SOMEBODY COULD STEAL HER FROM YOU, JULIUS.

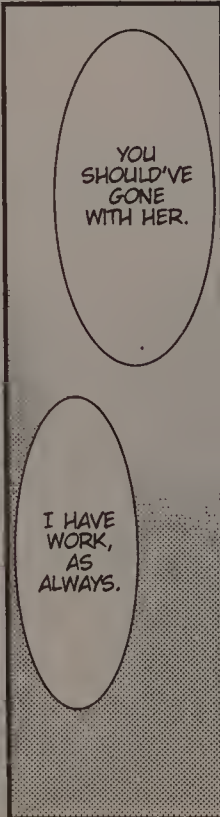


THE AMUSEMENT PARK, HUH?

I WONDER IF SHE'S HAVING FUN WITH THAT CAT.

HM

HM

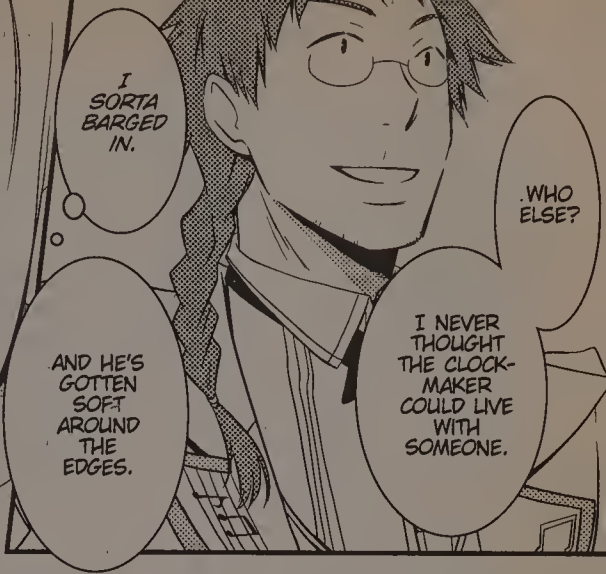


YOU SHOULD'VE GONE WITH HER.

I HAVE WORK, AS ALWAYS.



THAT'S
GOTTA BE
THANKS
TO YOU,
SWEET
PEA.



I
SORTA
BARGED
IN.

AND HE'S
GOTTEN
SOFT
AROUND
THE
EDGES.

WHO
ELSE?

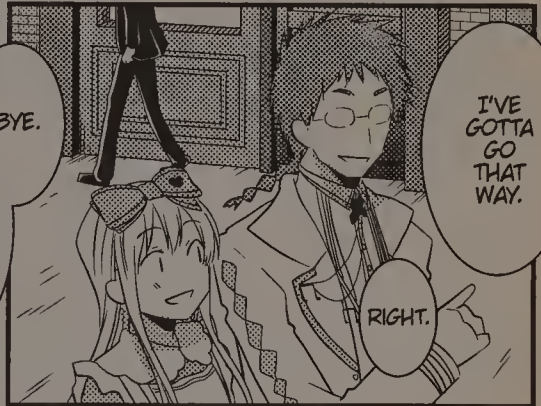
I NEVER
THOUGHT
THE CLOCK-
MAKER
COULD LIVE
WITH
SOMEONE.



HA HA!
SEE YOU
SOON.

BYE.

COME
BACK
TO THE
PARK!

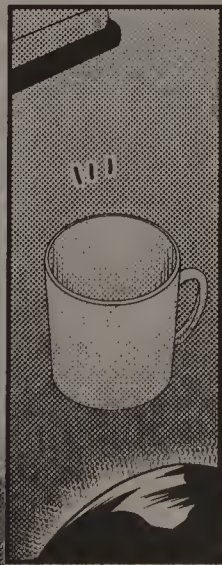


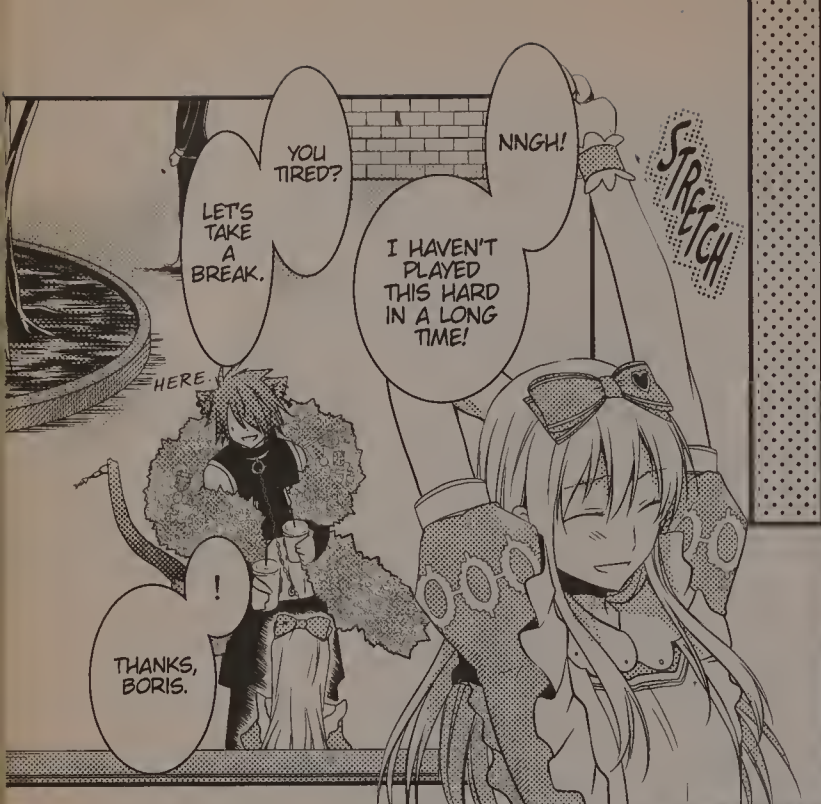
I'VE
GOTTA
GO
THAT
WAY.

RIGHT.



ALICE.





LET'S
TAKE
A
BREAK.

YOU
TIRED?

NNGH!

I HAVEN'T
PLAYED
THIS HARD
IN A LONG
TIME!

STRETCH

HERE

THANKS,
BORIS.



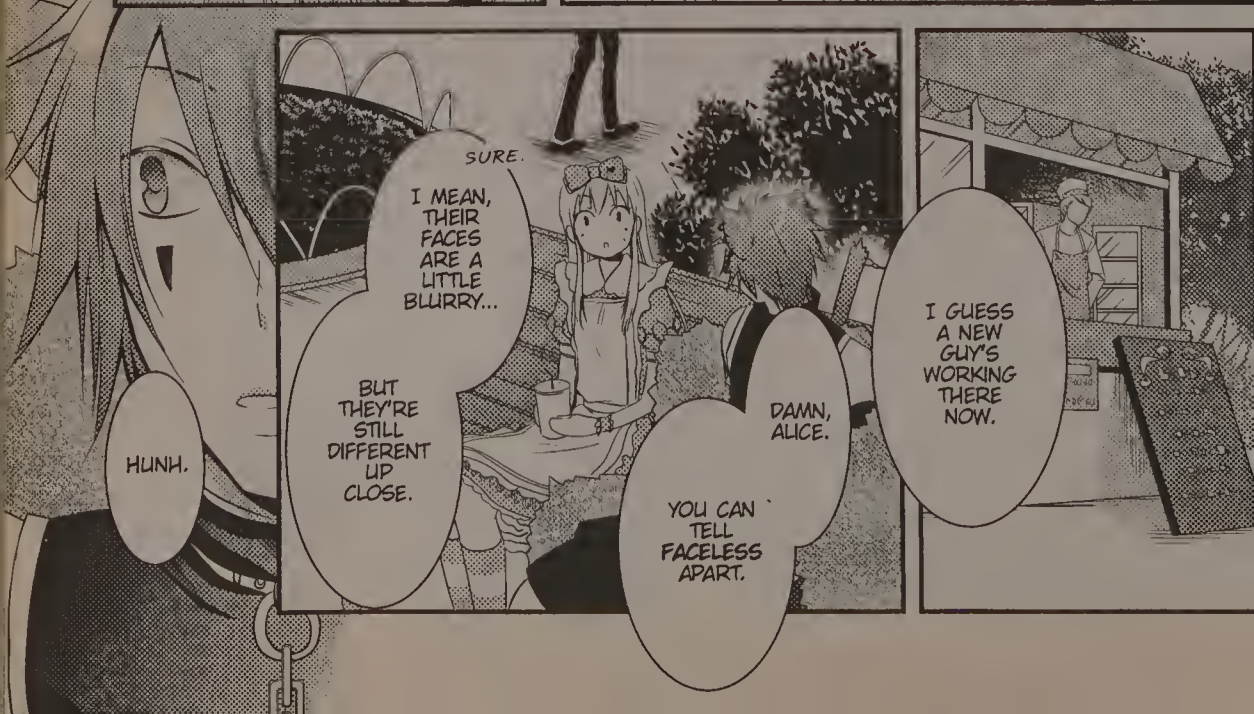
...IT FEELS
GOOD TO
BE THE
IDIOT THAT
FIGHTS
BACK.



TOTALLY.

HUH?

THIS PLACE
IS
KILLER,
ISN'T IT?



SURE.

I MEAN,
THEIR
FACES
ARE A
LITTLE
BLURRY...

BUT THEY'RE
STILL
DIFFERENT
UP
CLOSE.

HUHH.

DAMN,
ALICE.

YOU CAN
TELL
FACELESS
APART.

I GUESS
A NEW
GUYS
WORKING
THERE
NOW.



DROP
IT,
ACE.

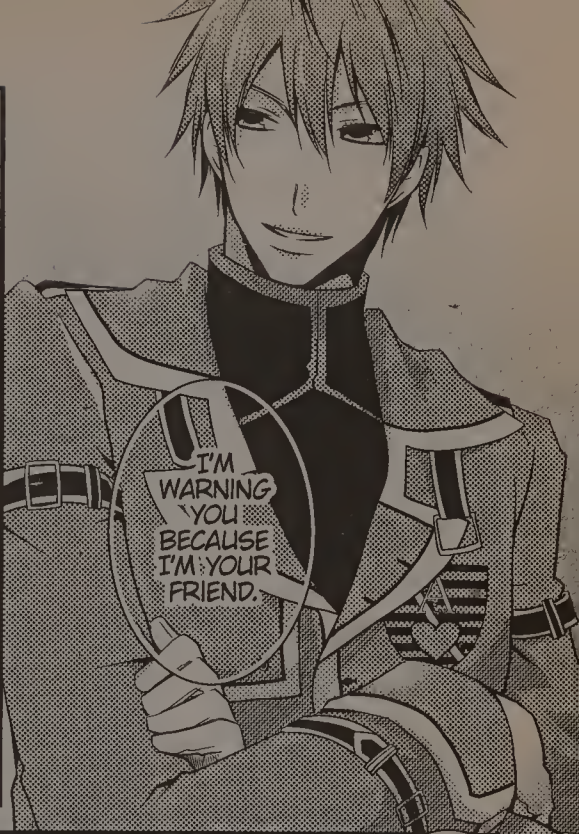
HA
HA!

BUT IT'S
FUN TO
WATCH
YOU
TWO.

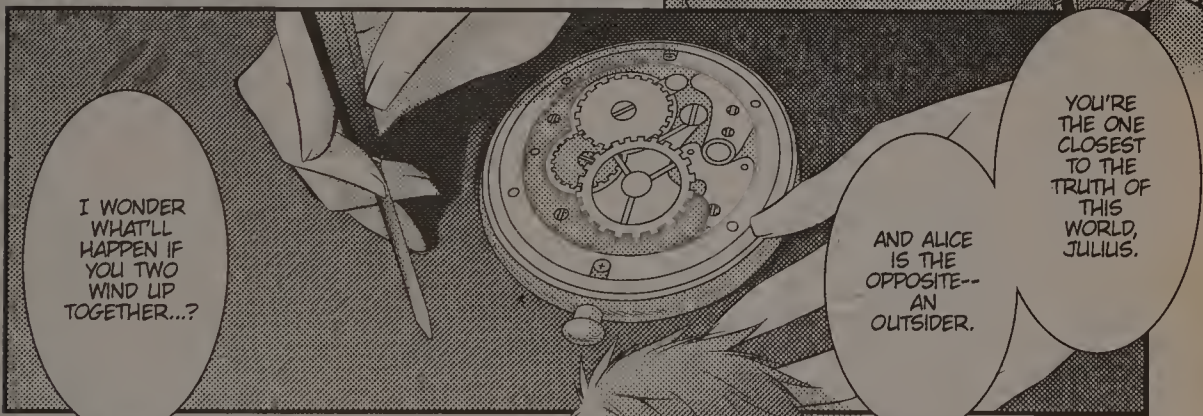


I'M NOT
SURE
I WANT
LIFE
ADVICE
FROM
YOU.

OUCH,
THAT'S
COLD!



I'M
WARNING
YOU
BECAUSE
I'M YOUR
FRIEND.



I WONDER
WHAT'LL
HAPPEN IF
YOU TWO
WIND UP
TOGETHER...?

AND ALICE
IS THE
OPPOSITE--
AN
OUTSIDER.

YOU'RE
THE ONE
CLOSEST
TO THE
TRUTH OF
THIS
WORLD,
JULIUS.



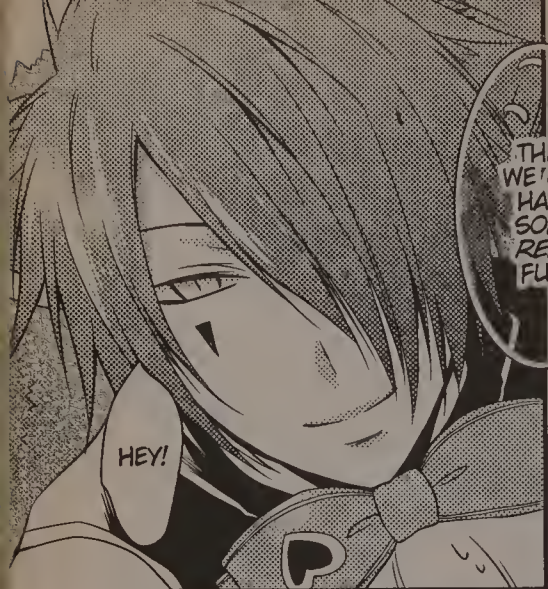
GRIN

SOME-
TIMES...



TAKE
IT
FROM
ME.

FLAP



HEY!

THEN
WE CAN
HAVE
SOME
REAL
FUN.



PULL

YOU
CAN
STAY AT
THE
PARK.

IF YOU
NEED A
PLACE
TO
STAY...



BORIS...
WAIT!

EDGE

EDGE

EDGE

I
PROMISE
YOU'LL
LIKE IT.

YOU'RE
A RIOT,
ALICE.
I WANNA
PARTY
MORE.



YOU
ALREADY
TOLD ME
THAT.

BUT YOU
DIDN'T
EXPLAIN
WHY!

BUT HE'S
TROUBLE,
ALICE.

WHOA.



WHY?
DO YOU
WANT
THE
CLOCK-
MAKER?

HUH?

I...



WAIT.

YOU'RE
WITH
HIM,
AND YOU
DON'T
KNOW?

HEH



CAN YOU
SHOW A
LITTLE
MORE
RESPECT?



IF
SOMEONE
DIES,
THEY'RE
JUST
REPLACED.

THEY
DON'T
REALLY
VALUE
LIFE IN
THIS
WORLD.

THERE
WAS A
GUNFIGHT
HERE
RECENTLY.

I GUESS
THE OLD
FACELESS
GUY DIED
AND GOT
REPLACED.

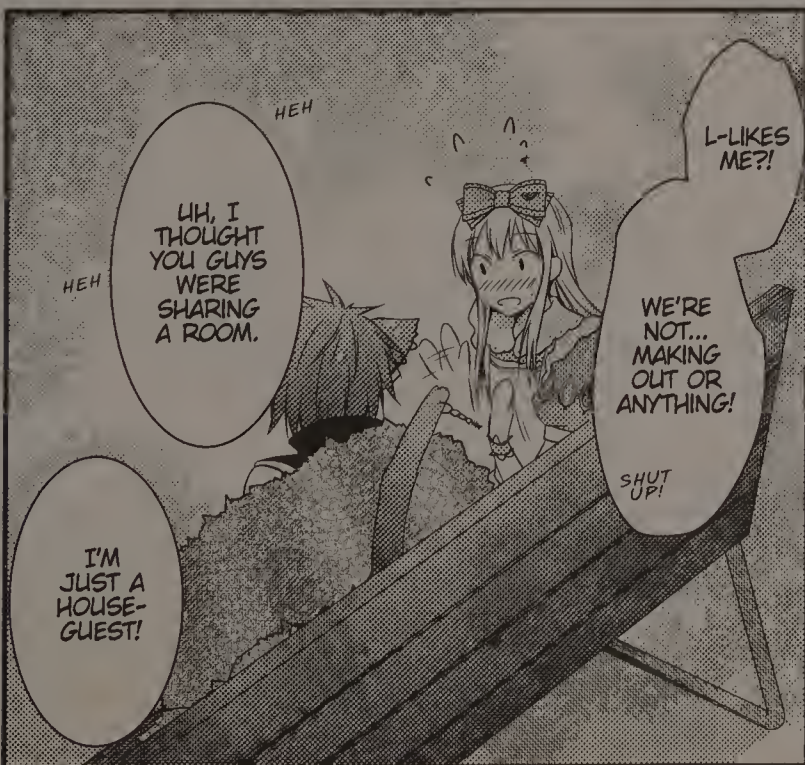
AT
THAT
BOOTH.



IT'S
SAD TO
LOSE
A LIFE.

THEY'RE
NOT THE
SAME
PERSON.

EVEN IF
SOMEONE
ELSE FILLS
THE VOID
LEFT BY
SOMEONE...



UH, I
THOUGHT
YOU GUYS
WERE
SHARING
A ROOM.

L-LIKES
ME?!

WE'RE
NOT...
MAKING
OUT OR
ANYTHING!

SHUT
UP!

I'M
JUST A
HOUSE-
GUEST!



MAN.

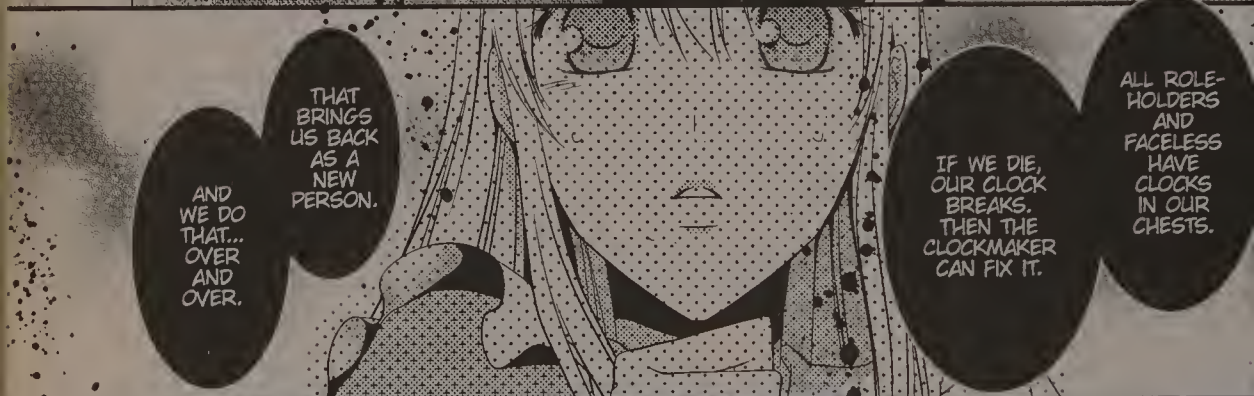
THAT
MUST BE
WHY THE
CLOCKMAKER
LIKES YOU.



IT'S THE
TRUTH
BEHIND
THE
CLOCK-
MAKER'S
CLOCKS.

THAT'S
THE
SOUND
OF MY
HEART.

AND...



THAT
BRINGS
US BACK
AS A
NEW
PERSON.

AND
WE DO
THAT...
OVER
AND
OVER.

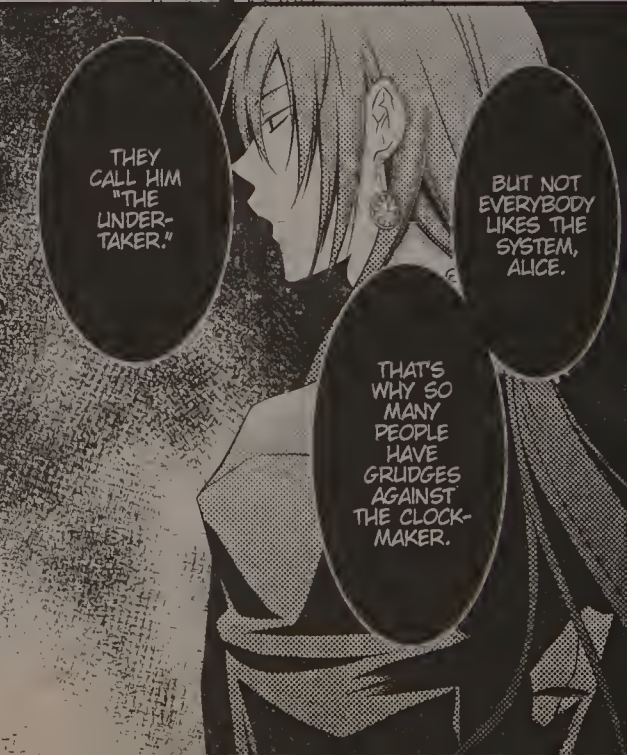
IF WE DIE,
OUR CLOCK
BREAKS.
THEN THE
CLOCKMAKER
CAN FIX IT.

ALL ROLE-
HOLDERS
AND
FACELESS
HAVE
CLOCKS
IN OUR
CHESTS.



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
GO BACK
THERE.
FORGET THE
TOWER
AND--

DID I
SCARE
YOU?

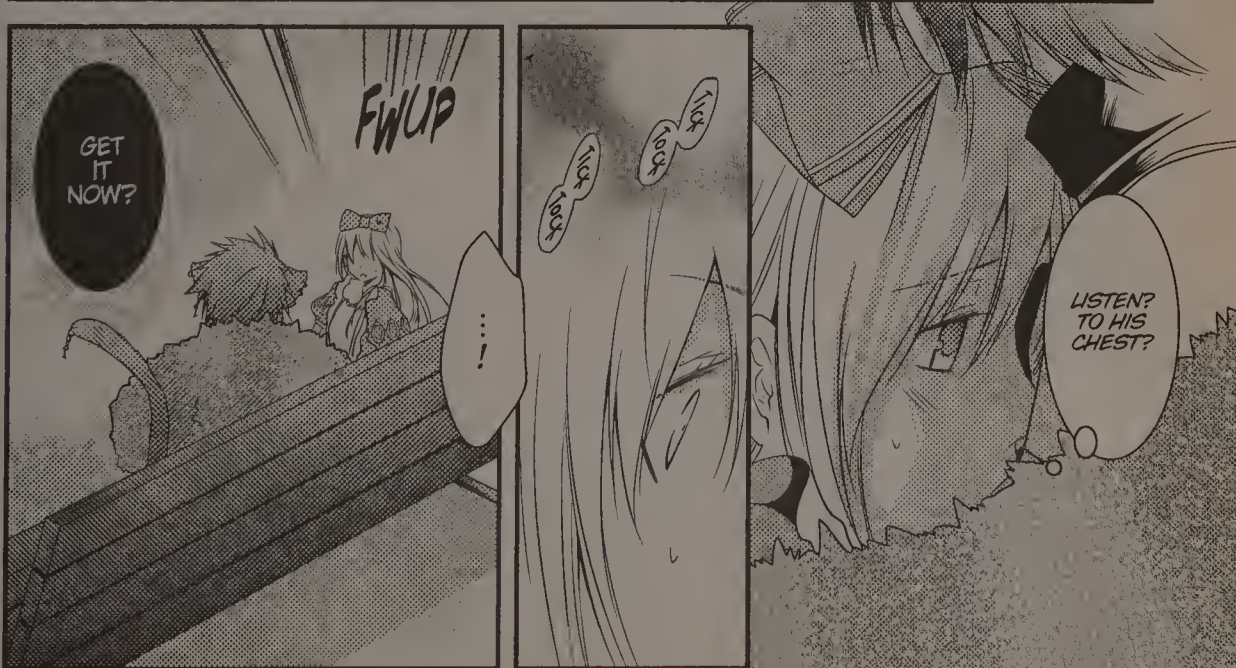


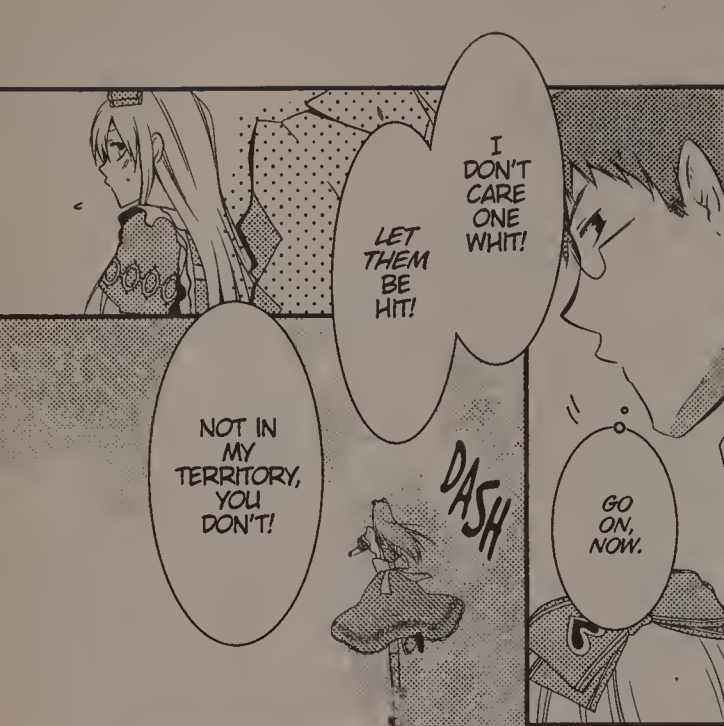
THEY
CALL HIM
"THE
UNDER-
TAKER."

BUT NOT
EVERYBODY
LIKES THE
SYSTEM,
ALICE.

THAT'S
WHY SO
MANY
PEOPLE
HAVE
GRUDGES
AGAINST
THE CLOCK-
MAKER.

BANG





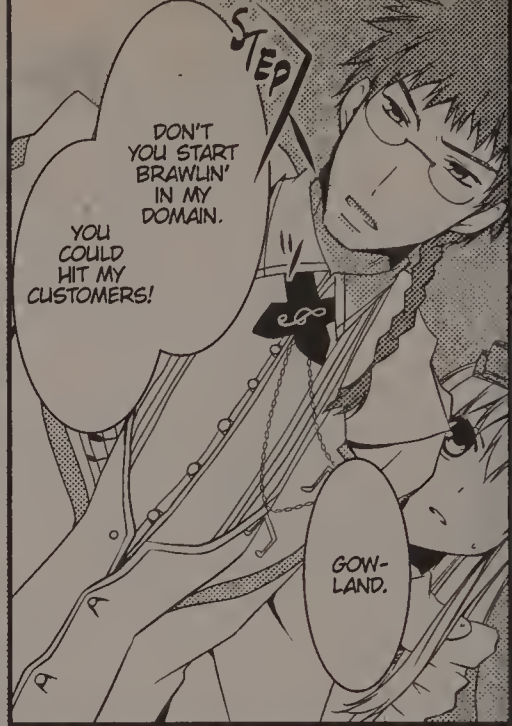
NOT IN
MY
TERRITORY,
YOU DON'T!

LET
THEM
BE
HIT!

I
DON'T
CARE
ONE
WHIT!

DASH

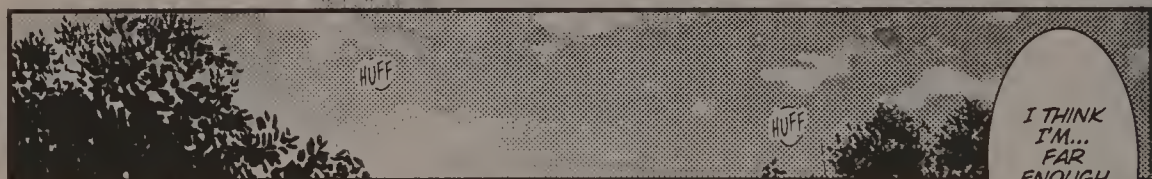
GO
ON,
NOW.



DON'T
YOU START
BRAWLIN'
IN MY
DOMAIN.

YOU
COULD
HIT MY
CUSTOMERS!

GOW-
LAND.



HUFF

HUFF

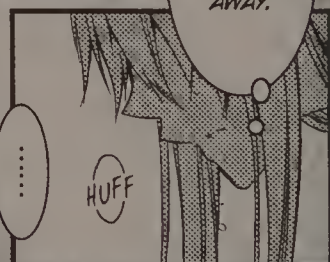
I THINK
I'M...
FAR
ENOUGH
AWAY.



HUH?
WHO'S
THAT?

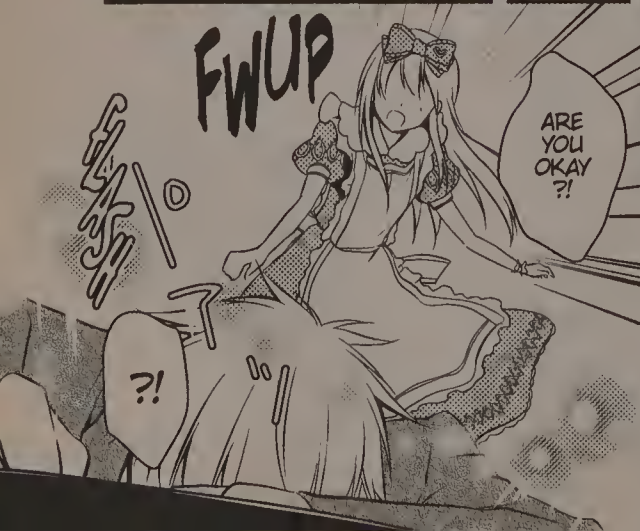


I'M SO
CONFUSED.



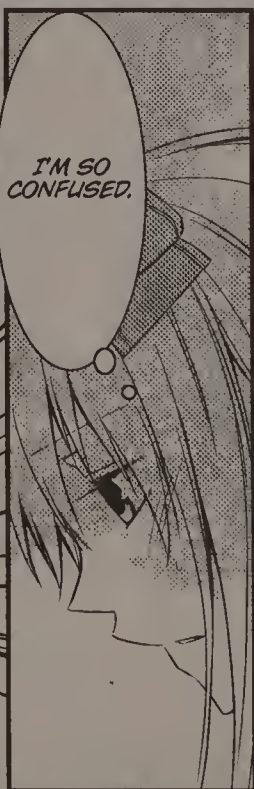
HUFF

CLOCKS

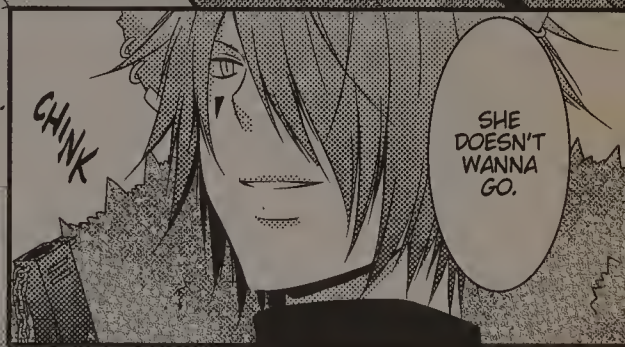
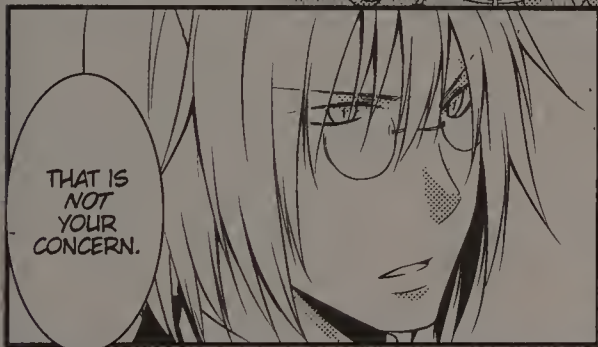
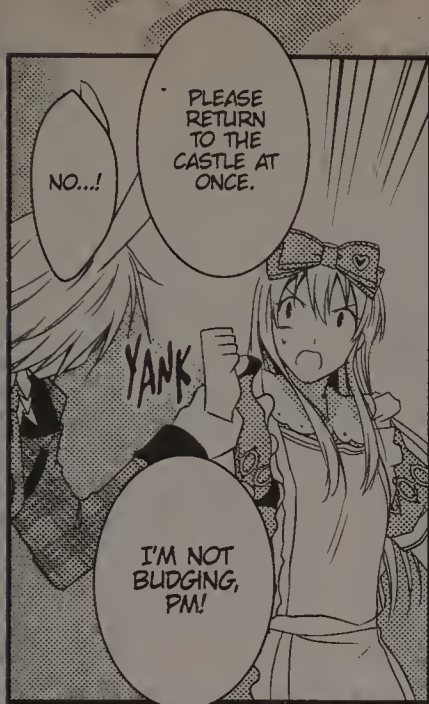


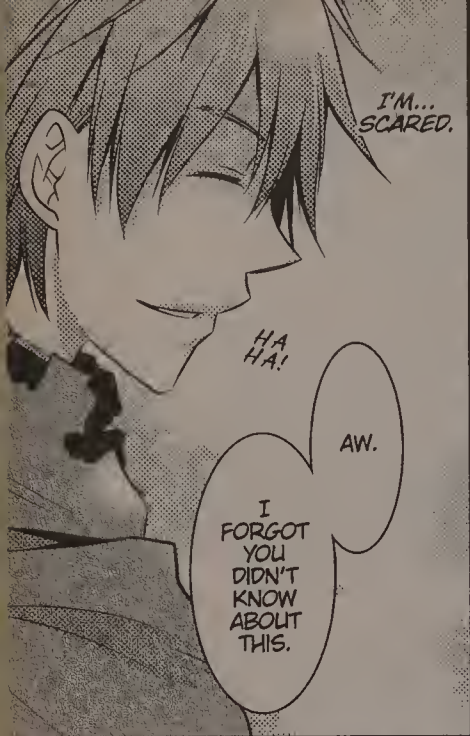
FWUP

ARE
YOU
OKAY
?!



THEN
JULIUS
IS
FIXING...



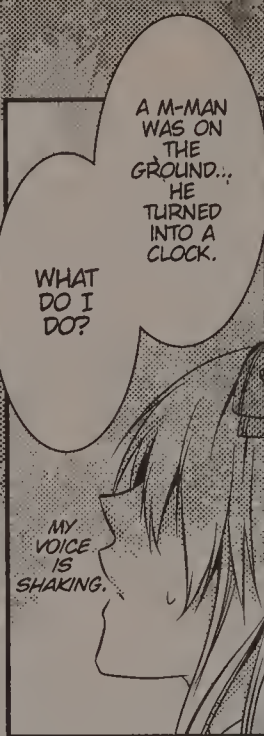


I'M...
SCARED.

HA
HA!

AW.

I
FORGOT
YOU
DIDN'T
KNOW
ABOUT
THIS.



A M-MAN
WAS ON
THE
GROUND...
HE
TURNED
INTO A
CLOCK.

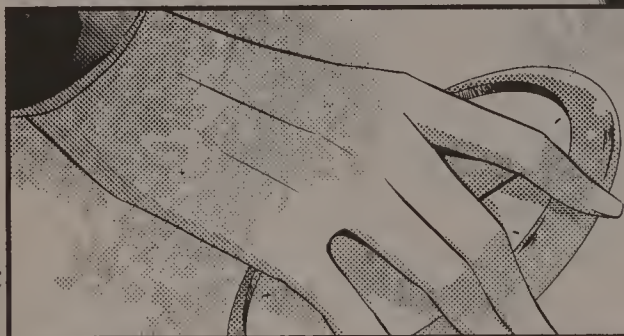
WHAT
DO I
DO?

MY
VOICE
IS
SHAKING.



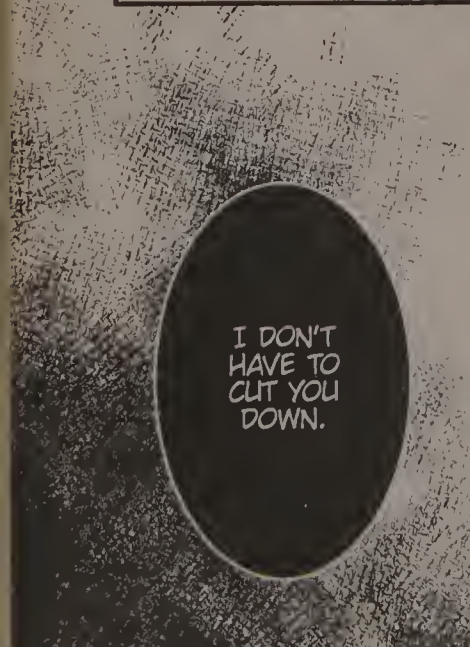
ACE...?

HEY.



SHK

JULIUS
IS
GONNA
HATE
ME.



I DON'T
HAVE TO
CUT YOU
DOWN.



DON'T
BE.

SINCE
YOU DIDN'T
RUN OFF
WITH THE
CLOCK...



ARE
YOU
SCARED
?

THUMP

SHWIP

ZZ

SHIVER

GRUNCH

VMM

VMM

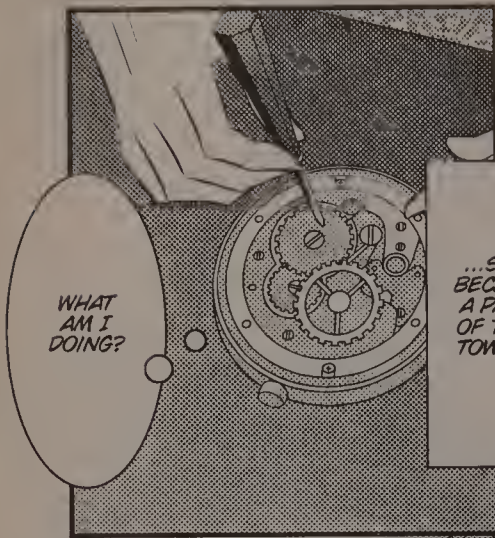
VMM

THE
BLACK
SHADOWS.

THE
ONES
I SAW
WITH
JULIUS!

ALICE...

CAREFUL
WITH
THAT
CLOCK.



WHAT
AM I
DOING?

...SHE
BECAME
A PART
OF THIS
TOWER.



LIKE THIS...
WITHOUT
SAYING A
WORD.

SHE
FORCED
HERSELF
ON ME
AFTER
SHE RAN
AWAY
FROM THE
CASTLE.
SHE MAY
LEAVE
JUST AS
ABRUPTLY.



DAMMIT!

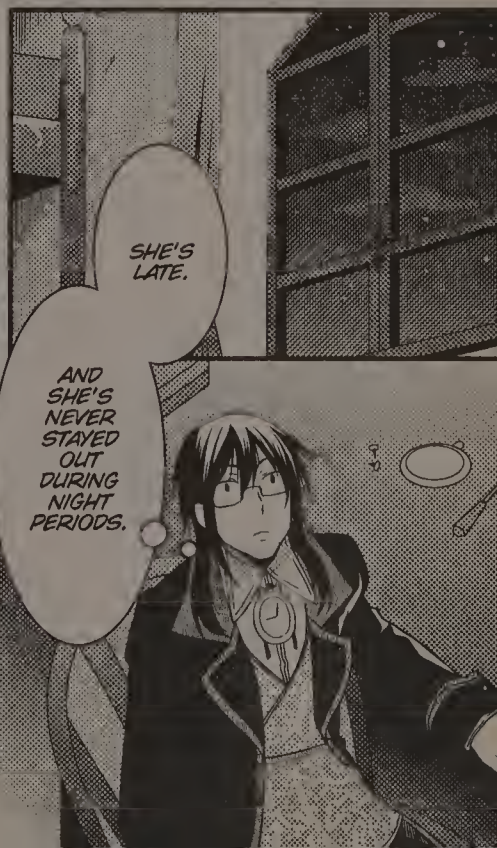
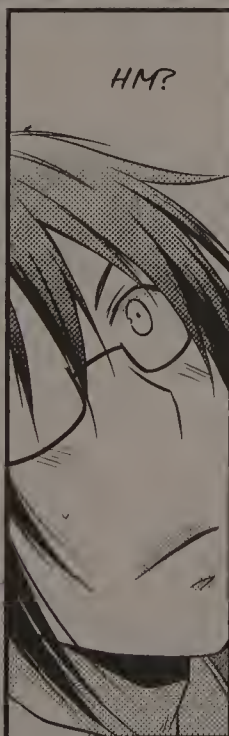
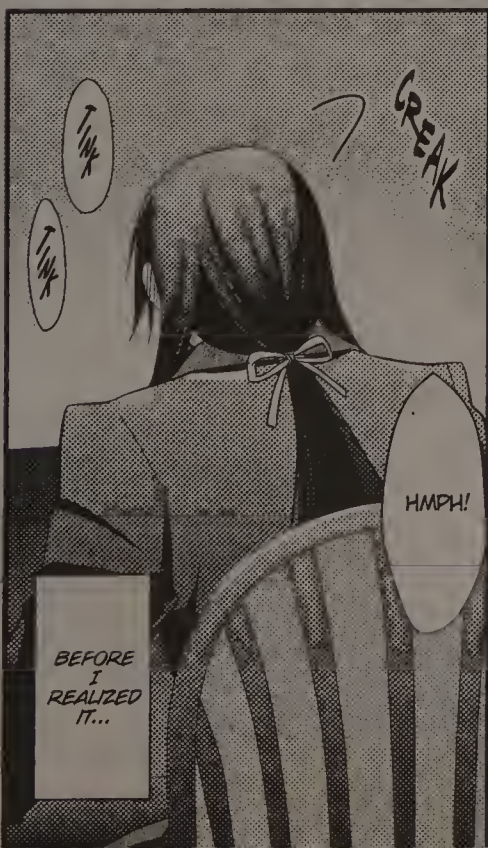
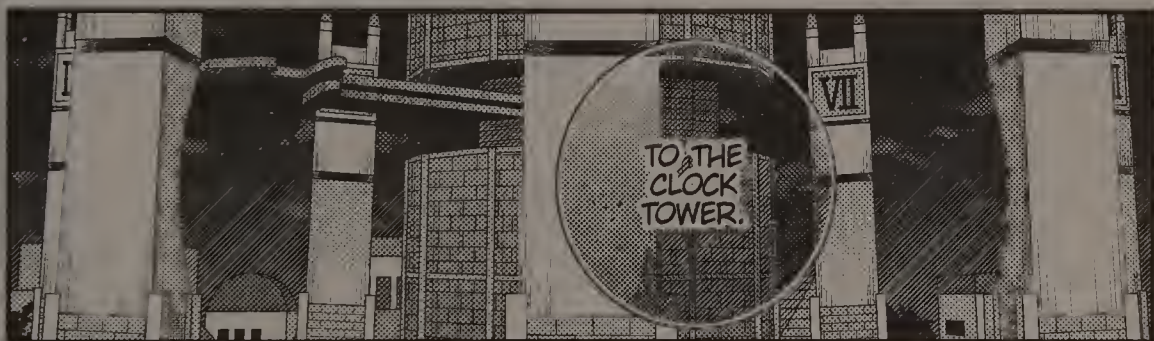
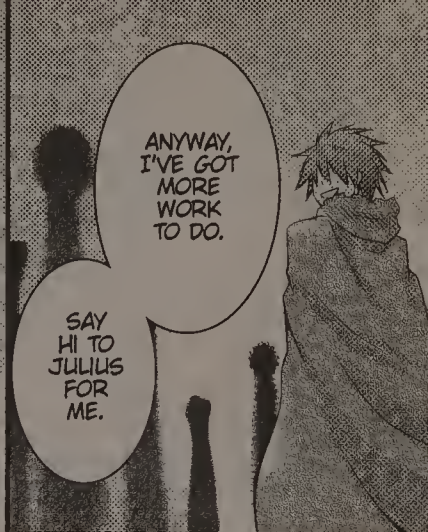
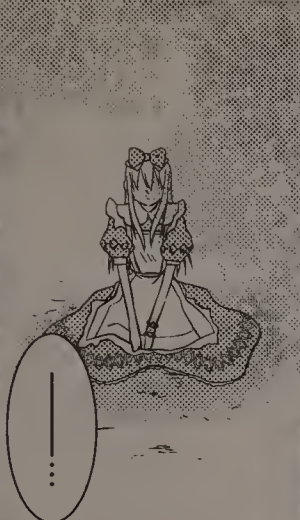
SHE
DOESN'T
NEED
THE
CLOCK
TOWER.

WHY
WOULDN'T
SHE STAY
THERE?

THE
AMUSE-
MENT
PARK.

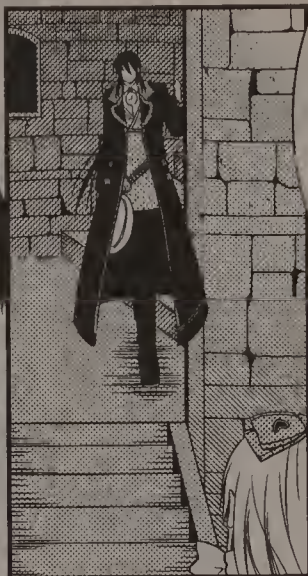
SHE
ENJOYS
THAT
PLACE.

ACE
IS IN
MY
HEAD.



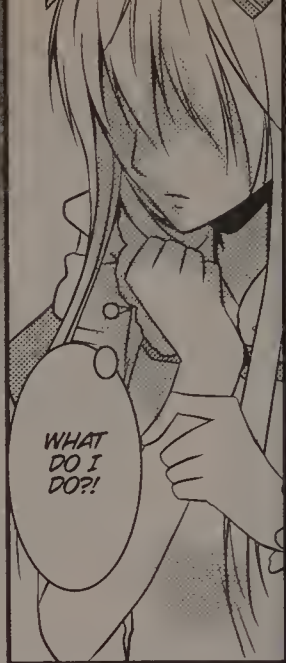


JULI...US.

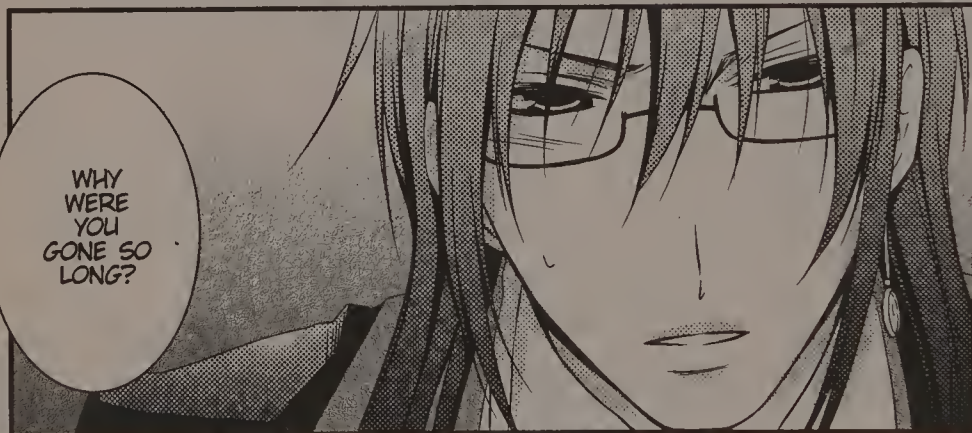


ALICE...?

FLINCH



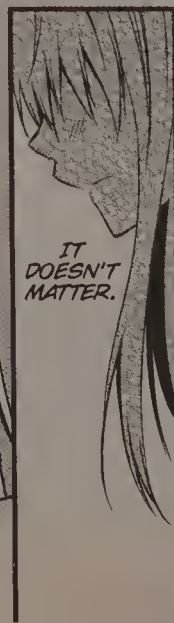
WHAT
DO I
DO?!



WHY
WERE
YOU
GONE SO
LONG?



NONE
OF THAT
STUFF
MATTERS.

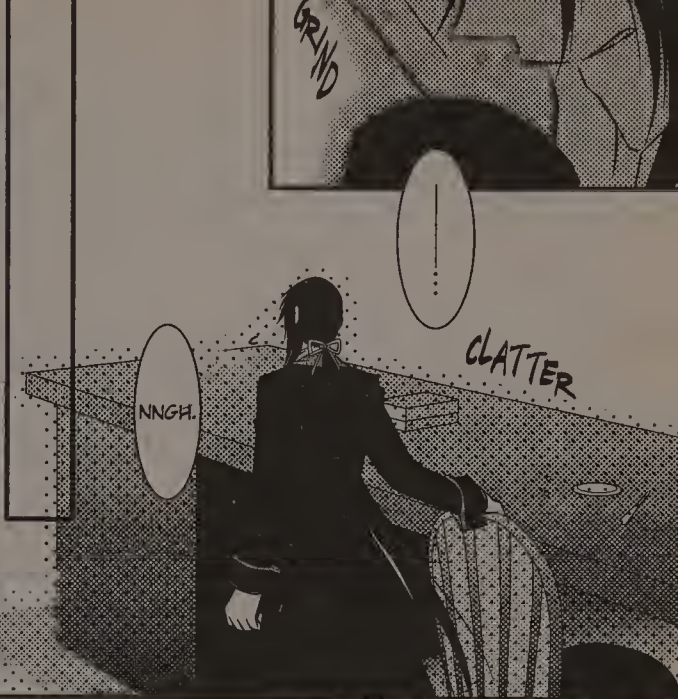
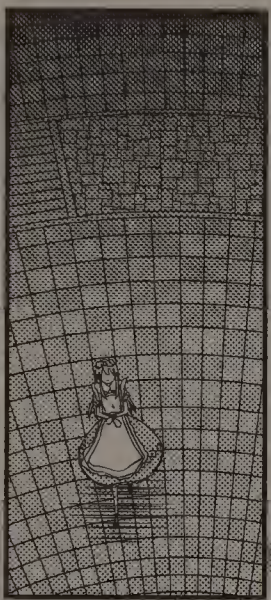


IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.





I CAN'T
THINK
STRAIGHT.



NNGH.

CLATTER



BUT THE
CLOCKS
AND
THOSE
SHADOWS.

ACE
REALLY
SCARED
ME.

EVEN
IF...

JULIUS
ISN'T
DOING
ANYTHING
WRONG.



WHAT
DO I
SAY?

HOW
CAN I
FACE
HIM?

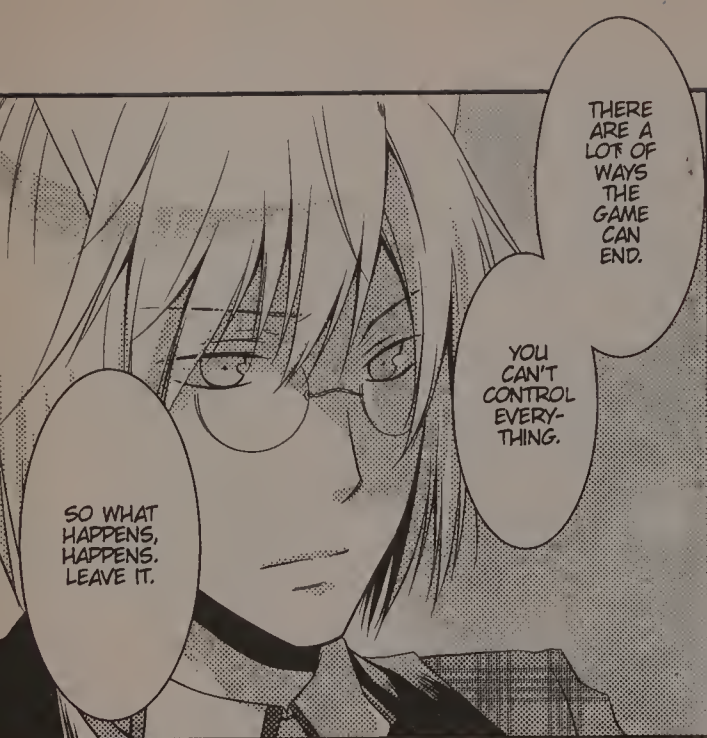
IF I GO
TO HIM
NOW...

SQUEEZE

HE
DIDN'T
WANT
ME TO
KNOW
THIS!

I KNOW
HE'S
SITTING
THERE,
WORKING
ON
THOSE
CLOCKS
ALONE.

JULIUS.



SO WHAT
HAPPENS.
HAPPENS.
LEAVE IT.

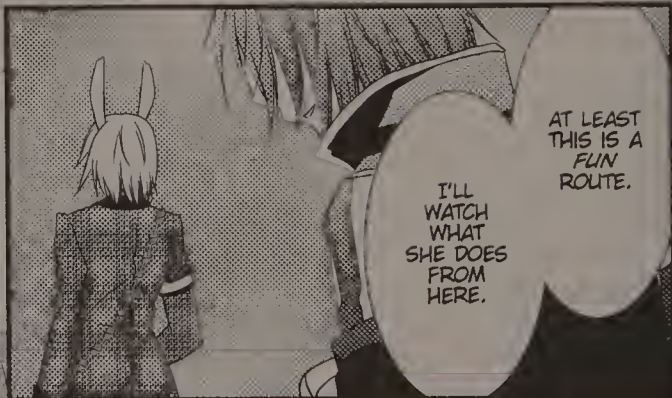
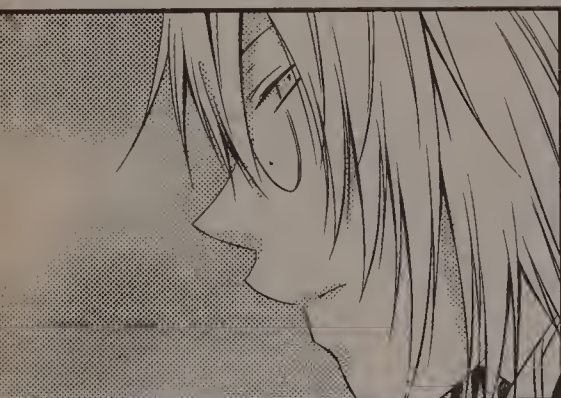
YOU
CAN'T
CONTROL
EVERY-
THING.

THERE
ARE A
LOT OF
WAYS
THE
GAME
CAN
END.



I ONLY
HELPED
YOU
BRING
HER
HERE.

AND I'M
NOT
PICKING
SIDES IN
THIS.



I'LL
WATCH
WHAT
SHE
DOES
FROM
HERE.

AT LEAST
THIS IS A
FUN
ROUTE.



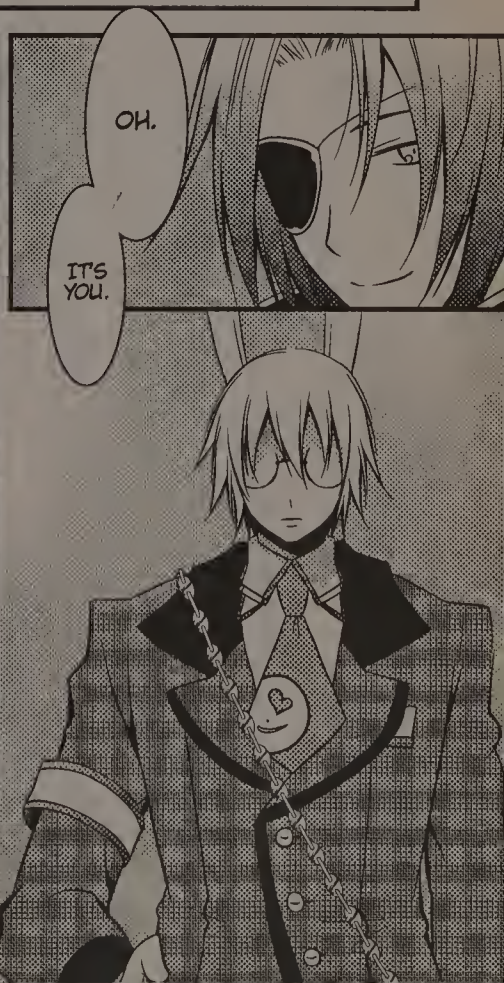
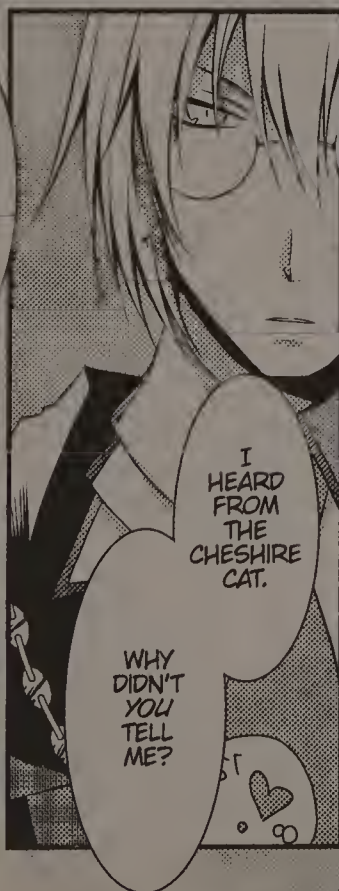
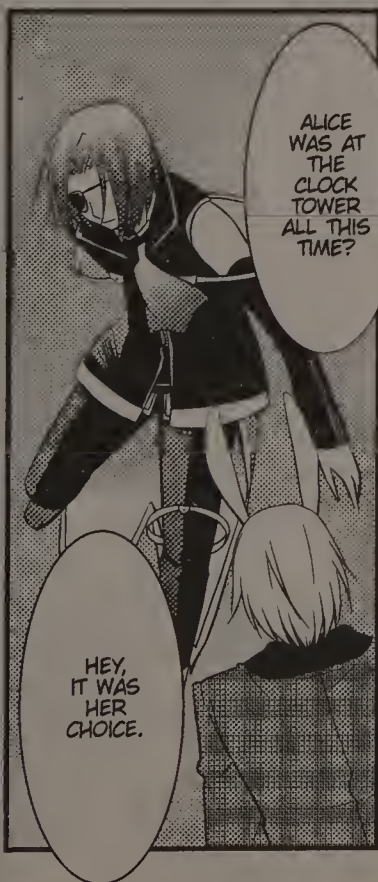
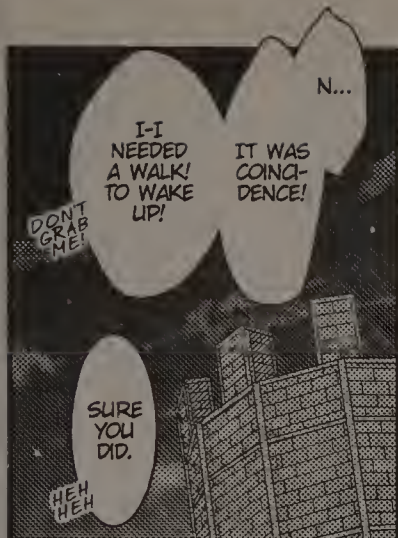
YES.

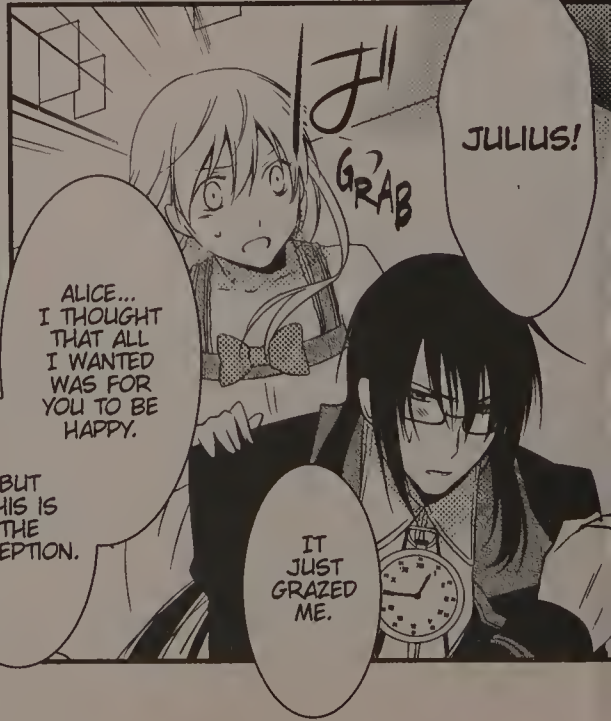
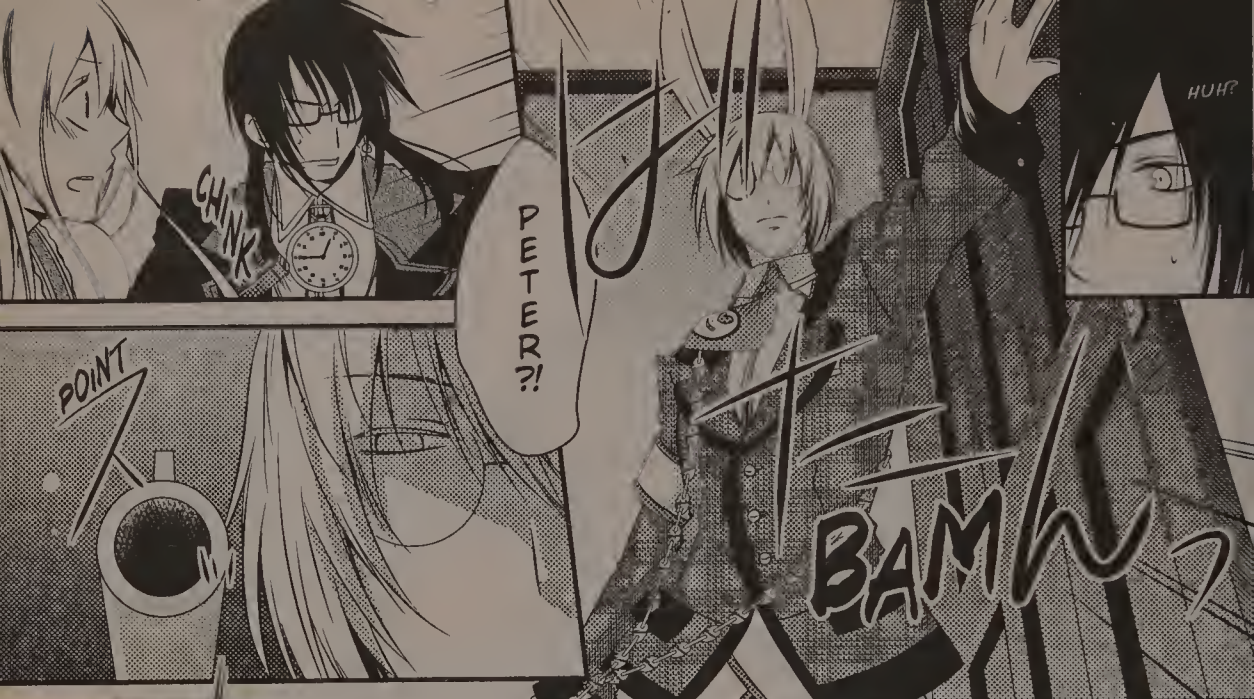
OF
COURSE
NOT.

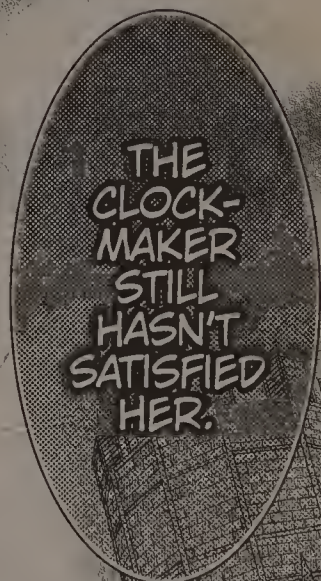
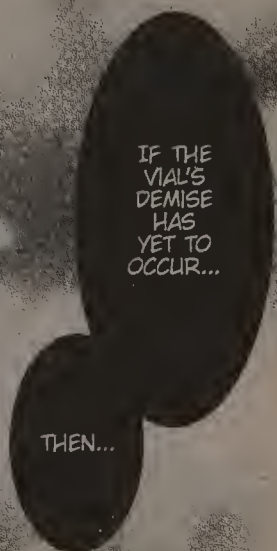
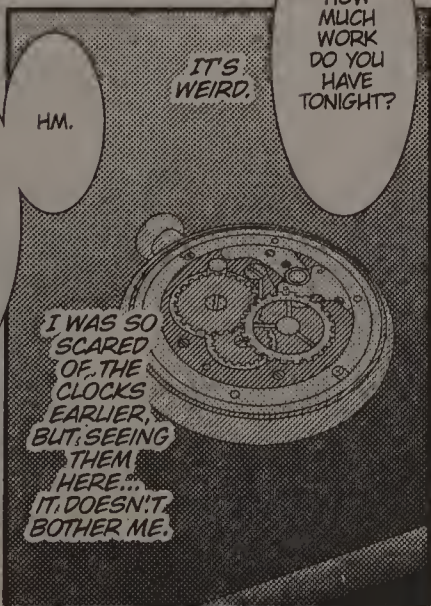
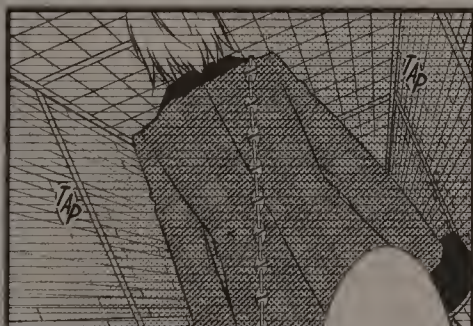
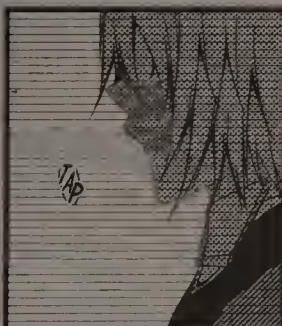
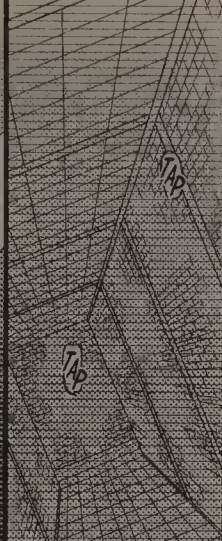
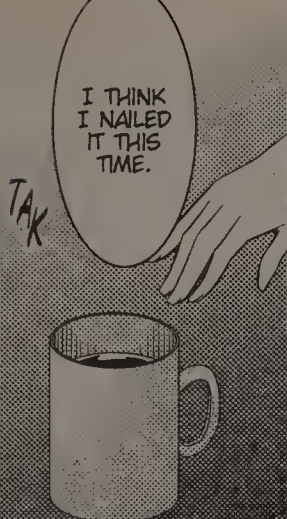
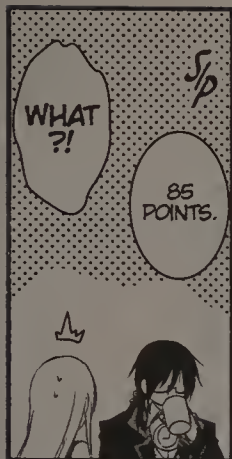


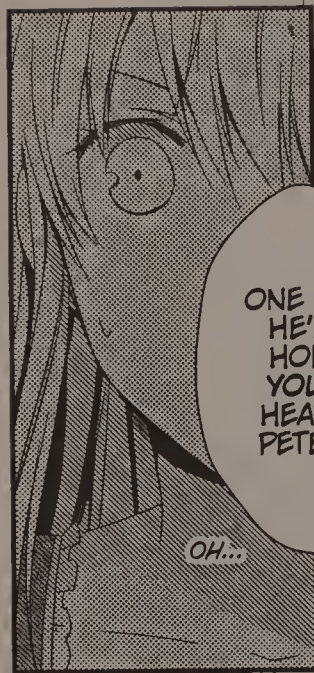
THE
VIAL?

IT
HASN'T
SHATTERED
YET.







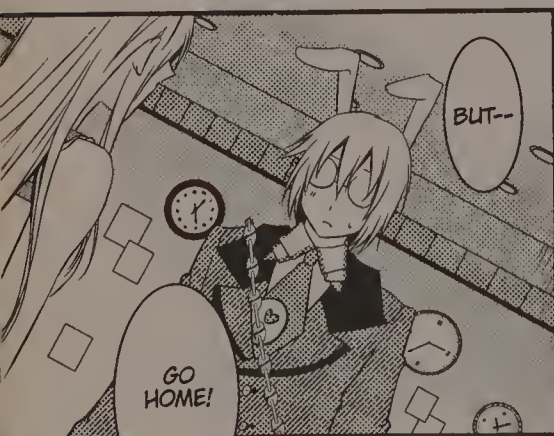
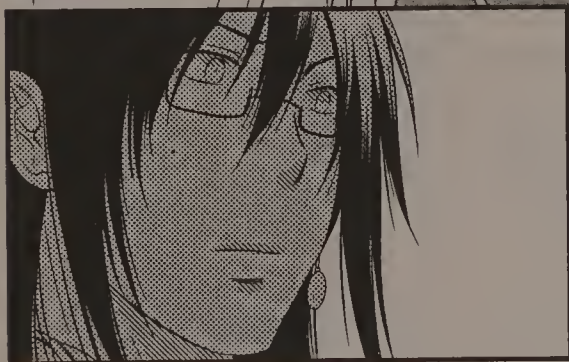


ONE DAY
HE'LL
HOLD
YOUR
HEART,
PETER!

OH...



HE'S
DOING
WHAT HE
HAS TO
TO KEEP
THE
WORLD
RUNNING!



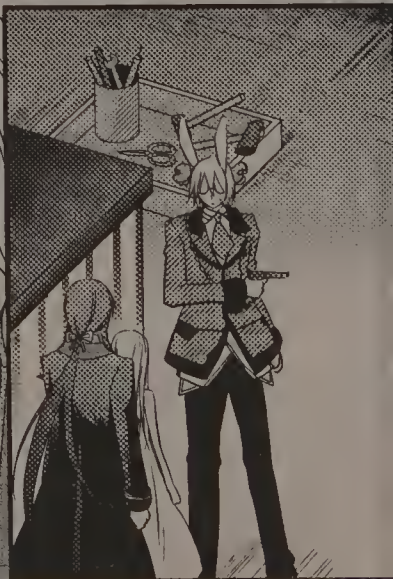
BUT--

GO
HOME!



ALICE...

JUST
GO,
PETER.





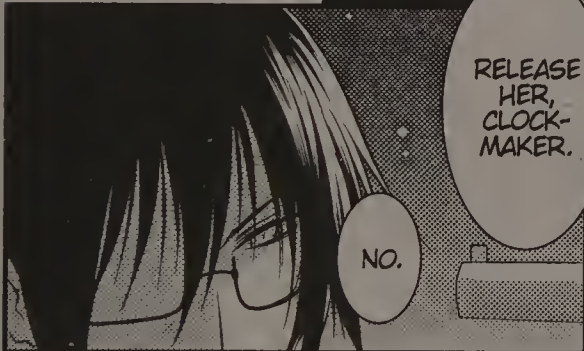
THIS IS HER DECISION.



STOP IT.

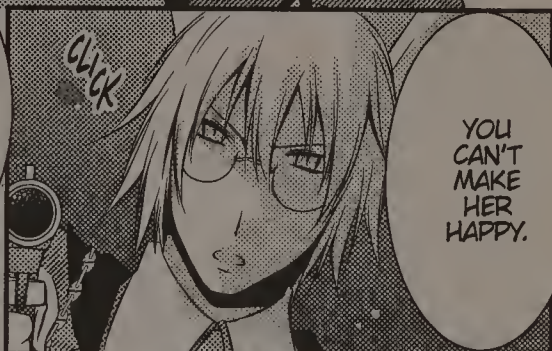
LET ME GO!!

WHACK



RELEASE HER, CLOCK-MAKER.

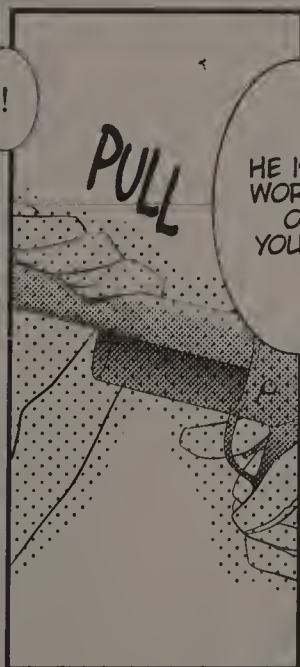
NO.



YOU CAN'T MAKE HER HAPPY.

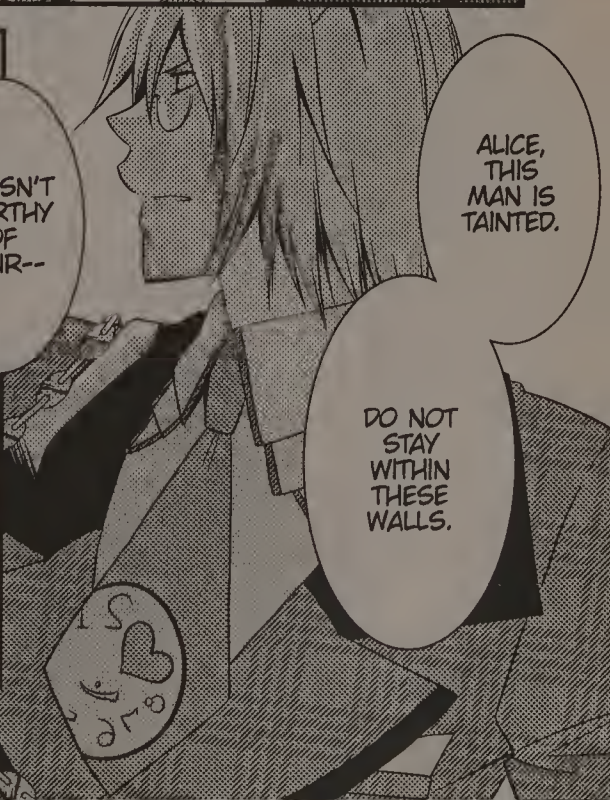


TAINTED?



PULL

HE ISN'T WORTHY OF YOUR--



ALICE, THIS MAN IS TAINTED.

DO NOT STAY WITHIN THESE WALLS.

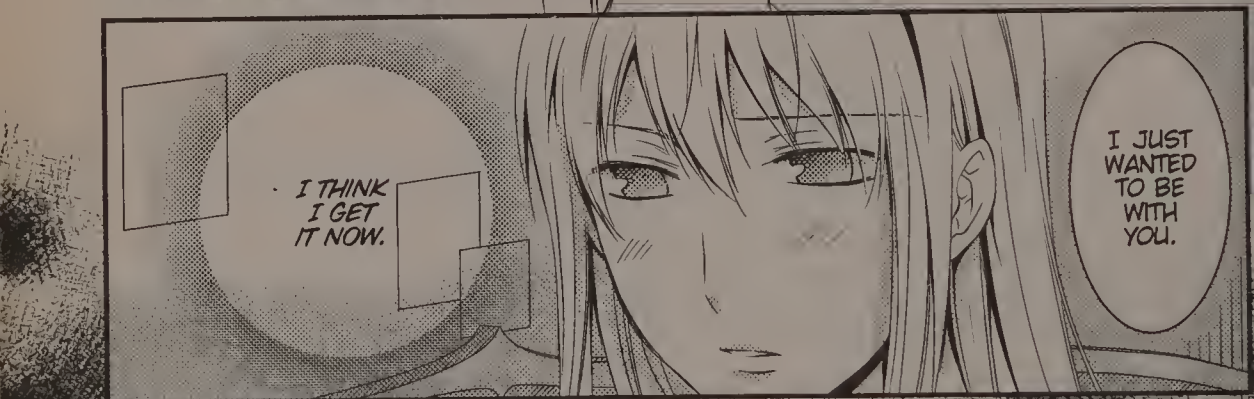


NO!

I DON'T REALLY...
KNOW
WHY I
STAYED.

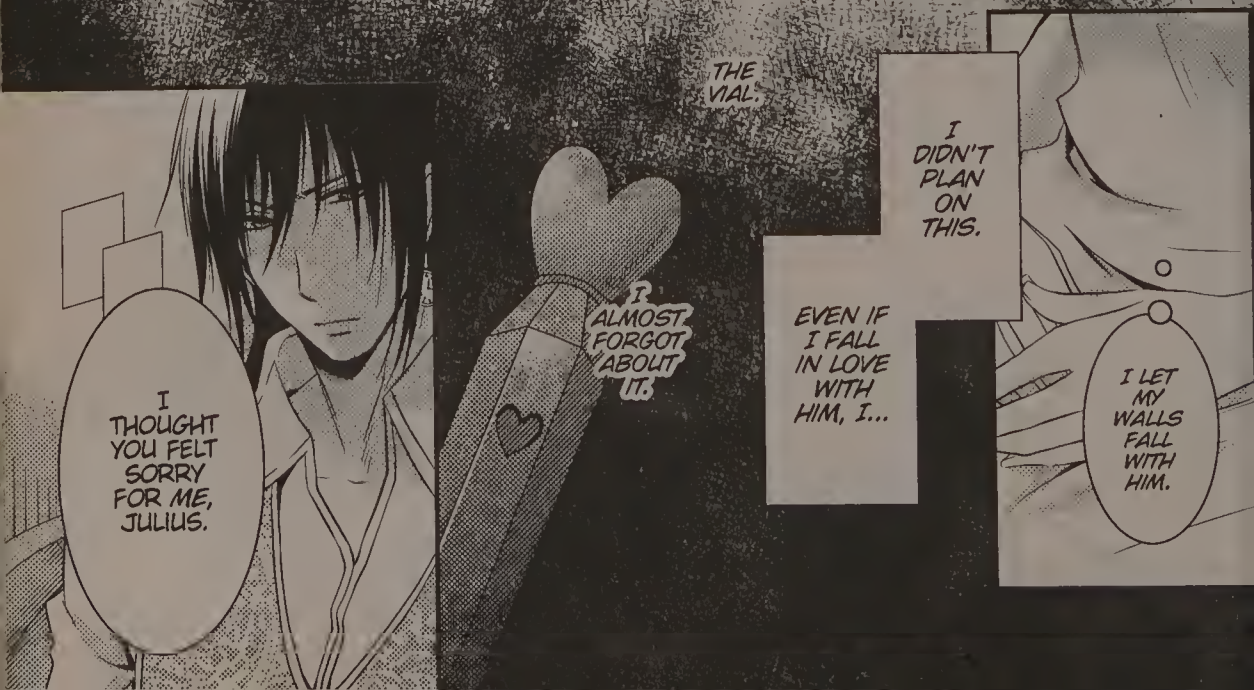
WAS IT
BECAUSE
YOU FEEL
SORRY
FOR
ME?

YOU
STAYED
HERE
EVEN
THOUGH
YOU
KNEW
THE
TRUTH.



I THINK
I GET
IT NOW.

I JUST
WANTED
TO BE
WITH
YOU.



THE
VIAL.

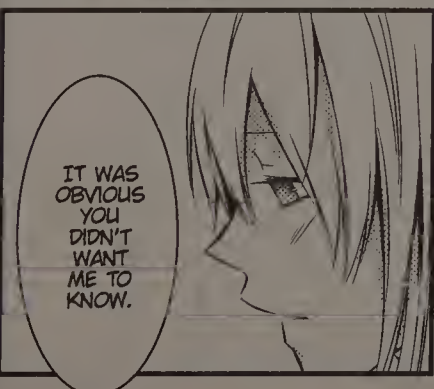
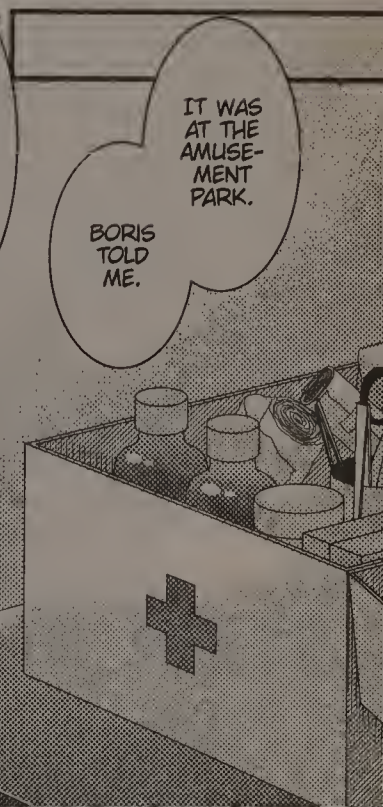
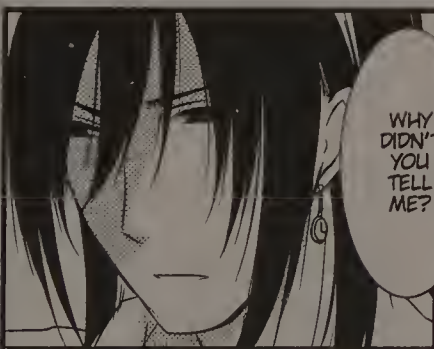
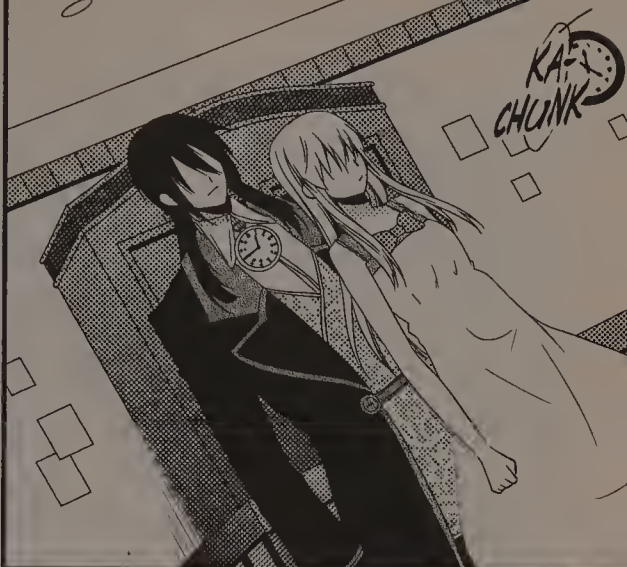
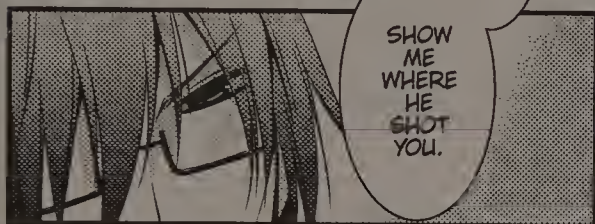
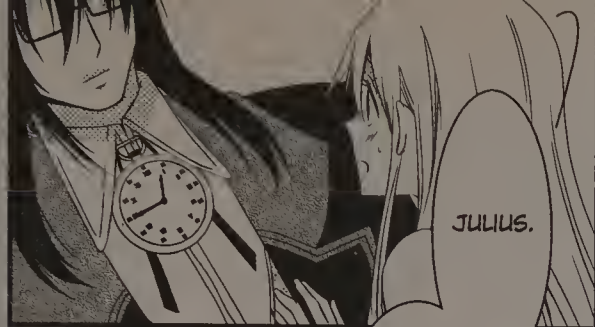
I
ALMOST
FORGOT
ABOUT
IT.

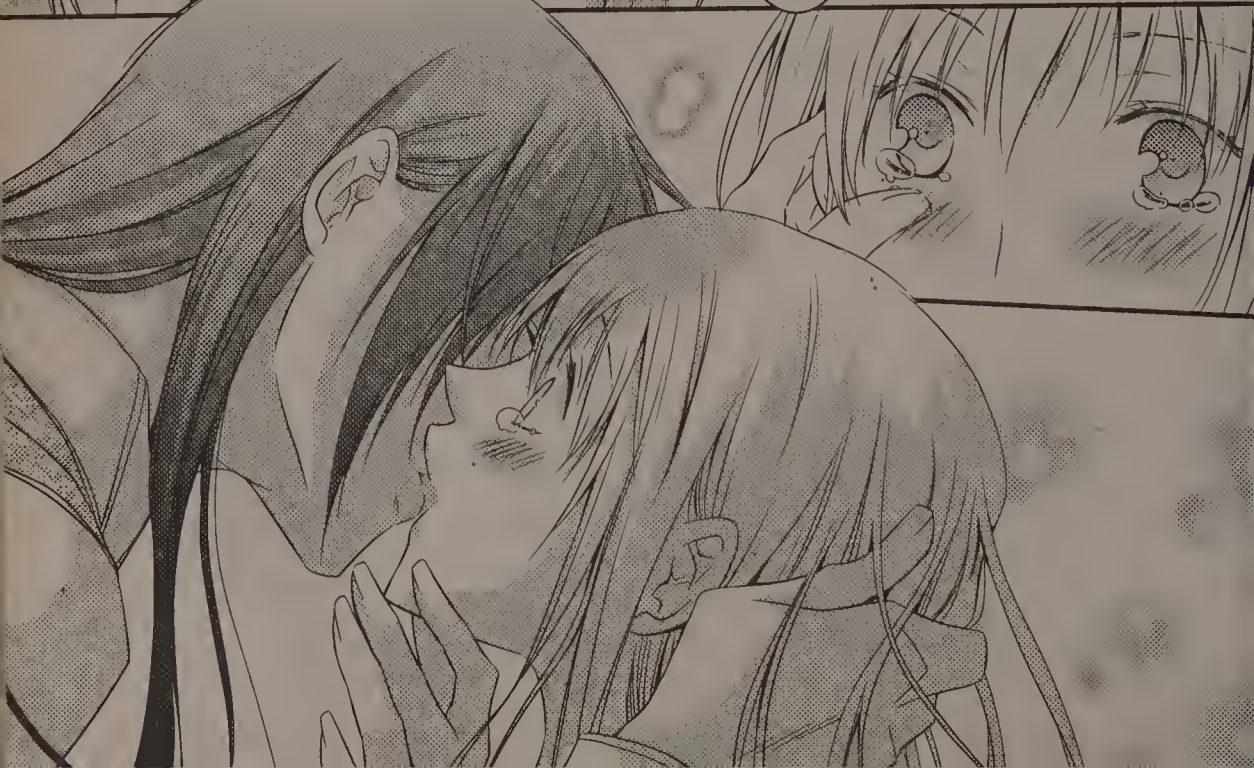
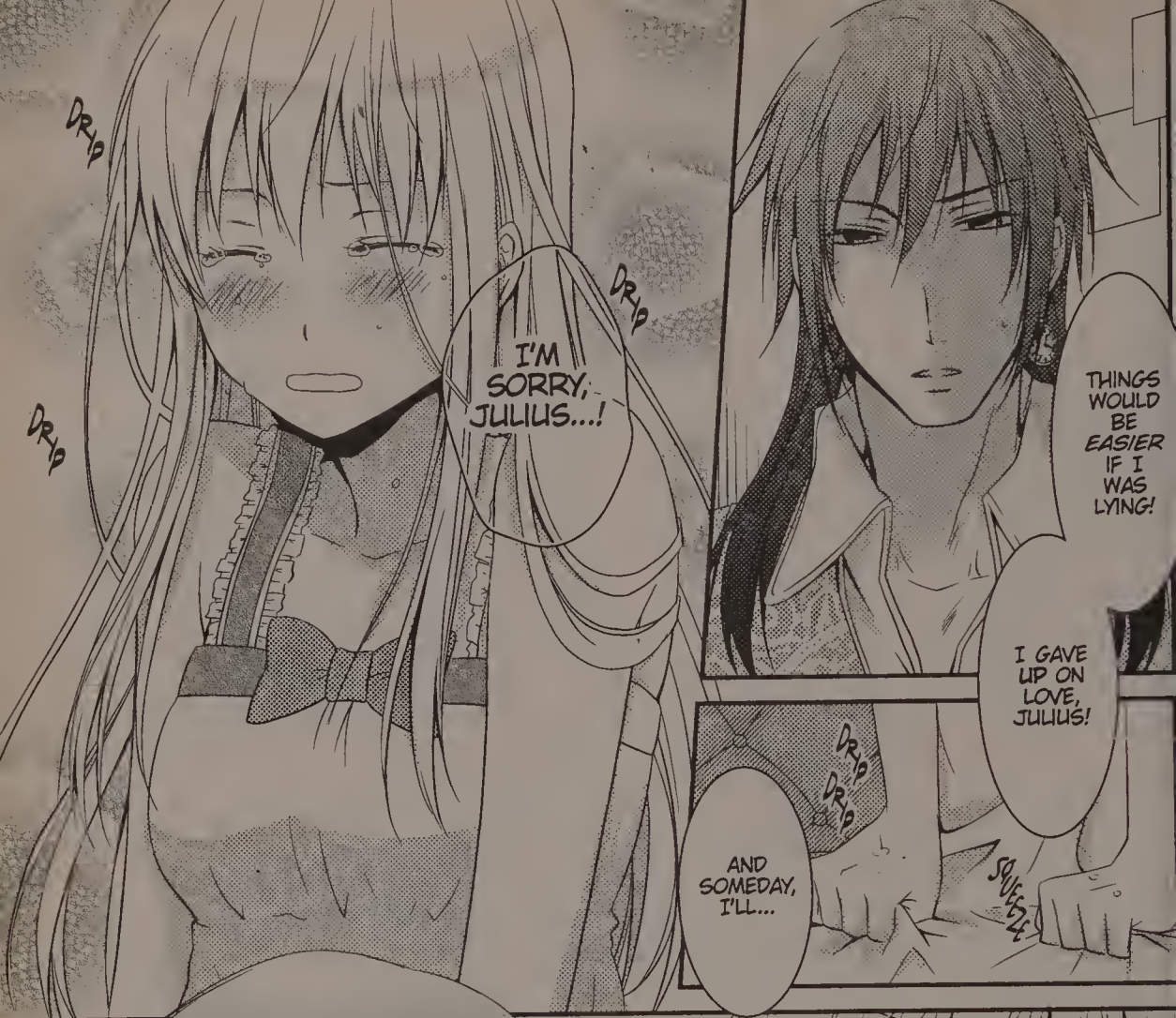
I
DIDN'T
PLAN
ON
THIS.

EVEN IF
I FALL
IN LOVE
WITH
HIM, I...

I LET
MY WALLS
FALL
WITH
HIM.

I
THOUGHT
YOU FELT
SORRY
FOR ME,
JULIUS.



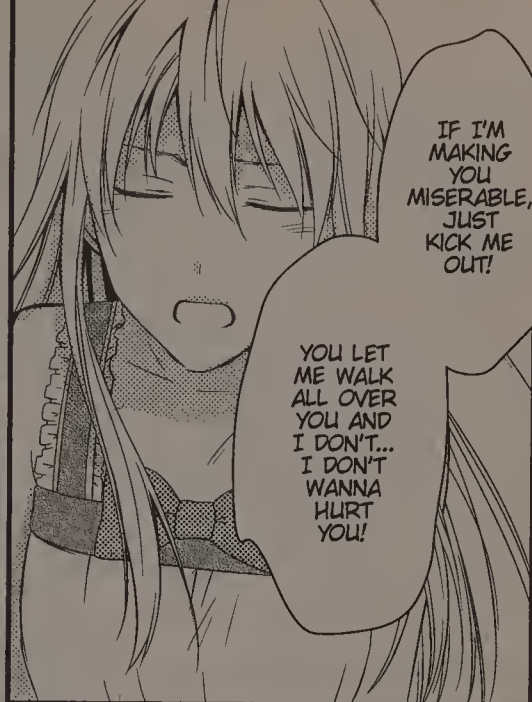




HURT ME?
LIKE HOW
YOU BEG
ME TO STAY
HERE UNTIL
YOU WALTZ
BACK TO
YOUR
WORLD?!

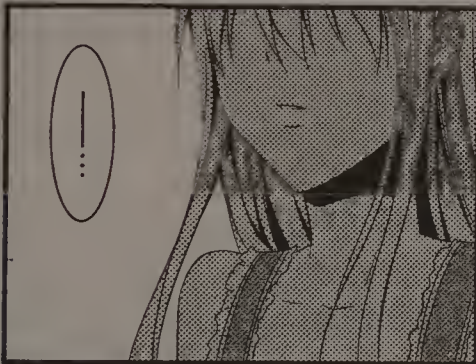


BEFORE
I KNEW
IT...

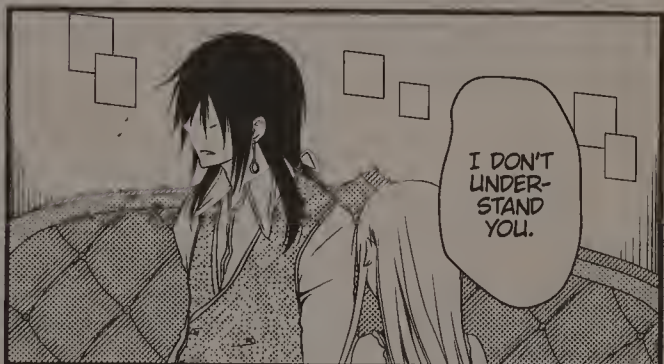


IF I'M
MAKING
YOU
MISERABLE,
JUST
KICK ME
OUT!

YOU LET
ME WALK
ALL OVER
YOU AND
I DON'T...
I DON'T
WANNA
HURT
YOU!



—
!



I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
YOU.



...!
DON'T
LIE TO
ME!



I THINK
I LOVE
YOU.

I'M
SORRY,
JULIUS.

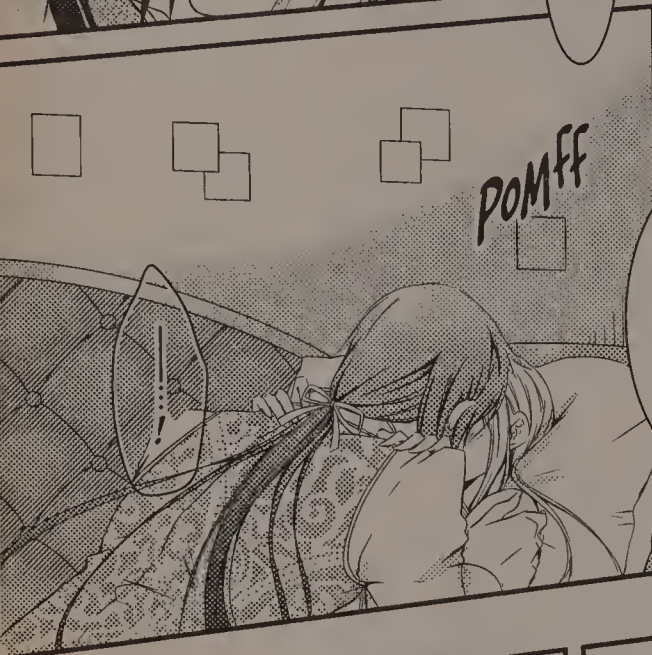


THANK ...



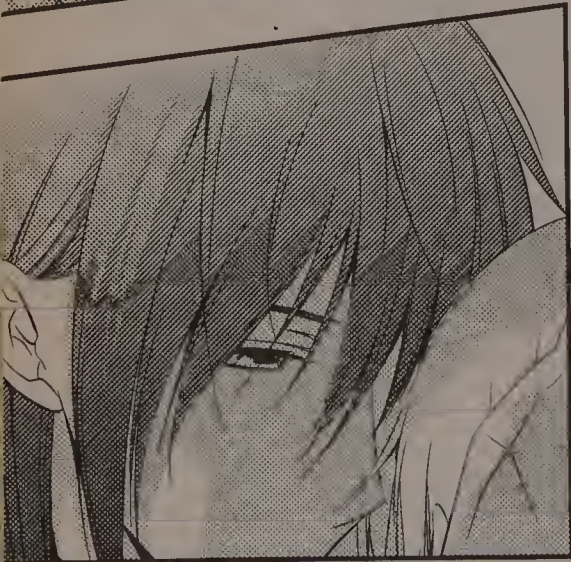
JULIUS.

C-CAN I STILL LIVE WITH YOU?



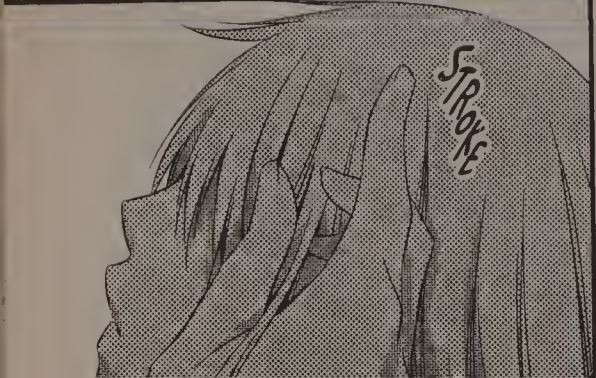
POMFF

OF COURSE YOU CAN.

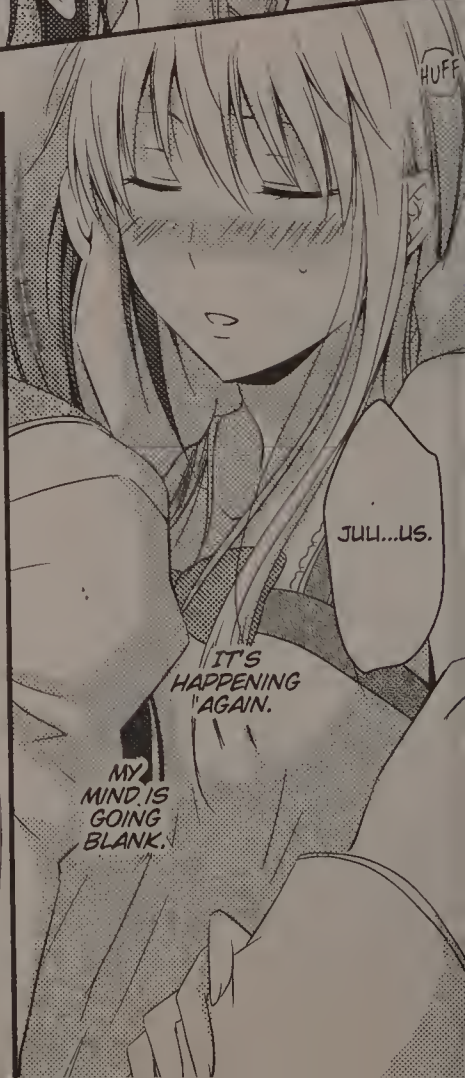


...
CAN I REALLY DO THIS?

EVEN THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THIS WORLD?



STROPE



HUFF

JULI...US.

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.

MY MIND IS GOING BLANK.



D-DON'T
DO THIS
FOR ME.
DON'T
JUST...

COMFORT
ME
BECAUSE
I'M
CRYING.

I WOULD
FAIL
LITTERLY
AT THAT.

NO.

JULIUS...

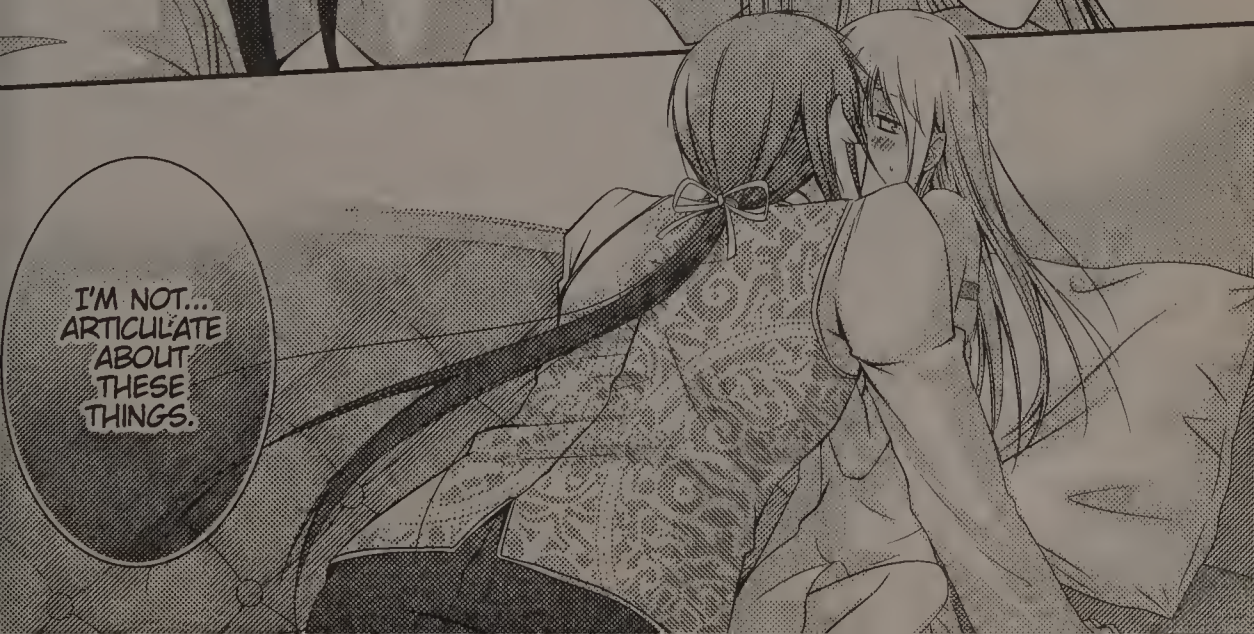
MM



STOP
TALKING.

BUT YOU
SAID...
I WAS
DIFFICULT?

THERE'S
NO WAY
YOU
COULD
LIKE ME!



I'M NOT...
ARTICULATE
ABOUT
THESE
THINGS.

I LET
GO WITH
HIM.

PLK-H

I GUESS
THE
GAME IS
ALMOST
OVER.

BUT IF I
LEAVE MY
HEART
BEHIND
LIKE
THIS...

EVEN
THOUGH
I KNEW
BETTER.

JULIUS...

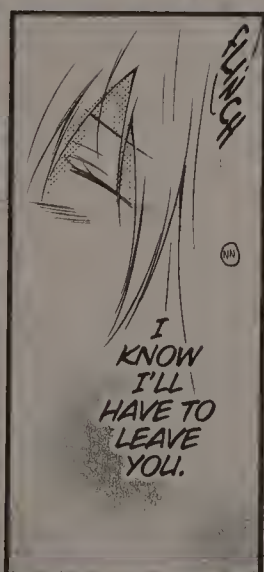
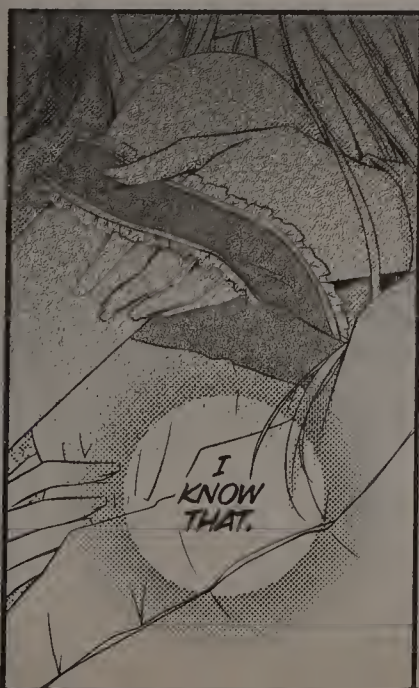
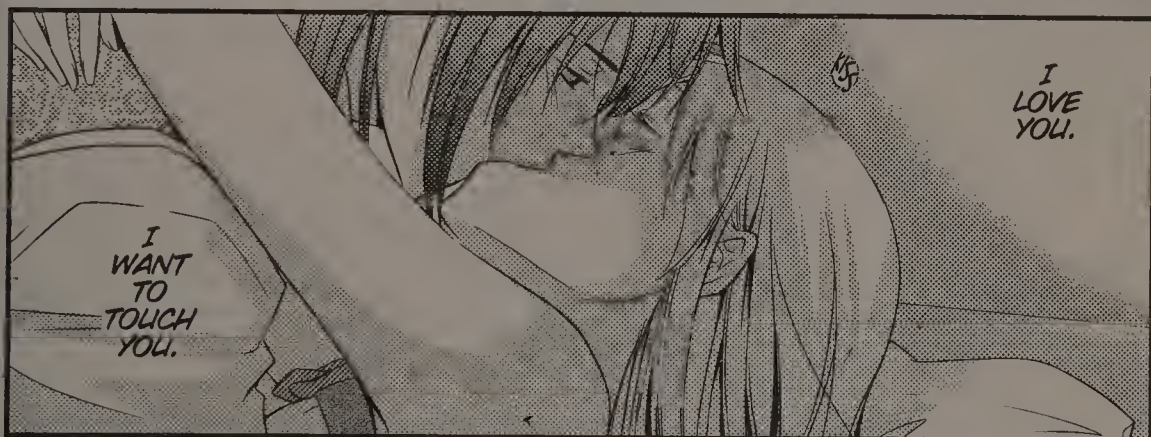
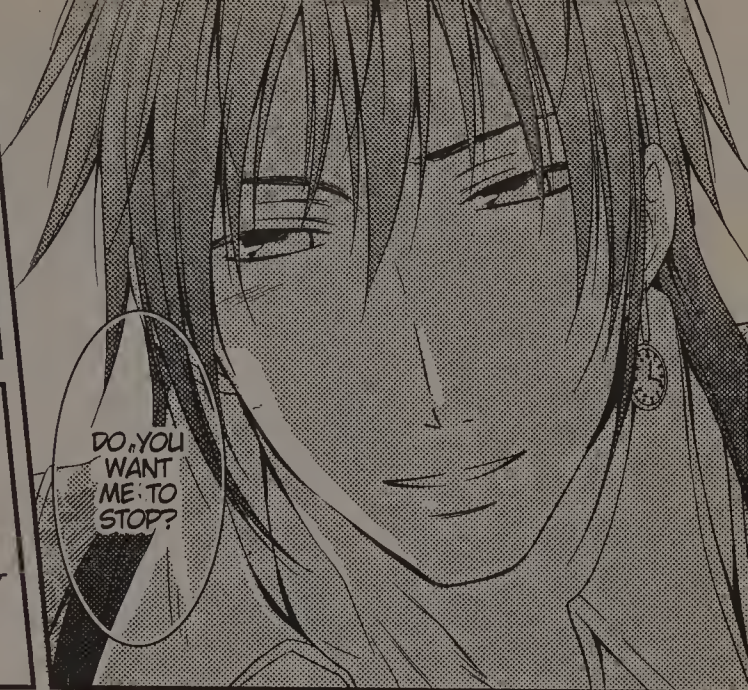
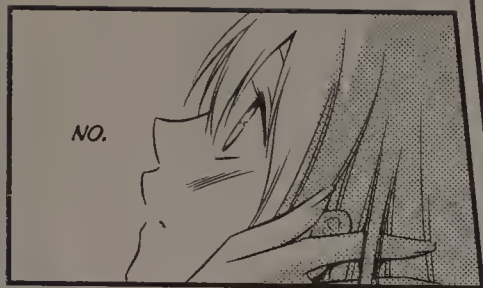
...

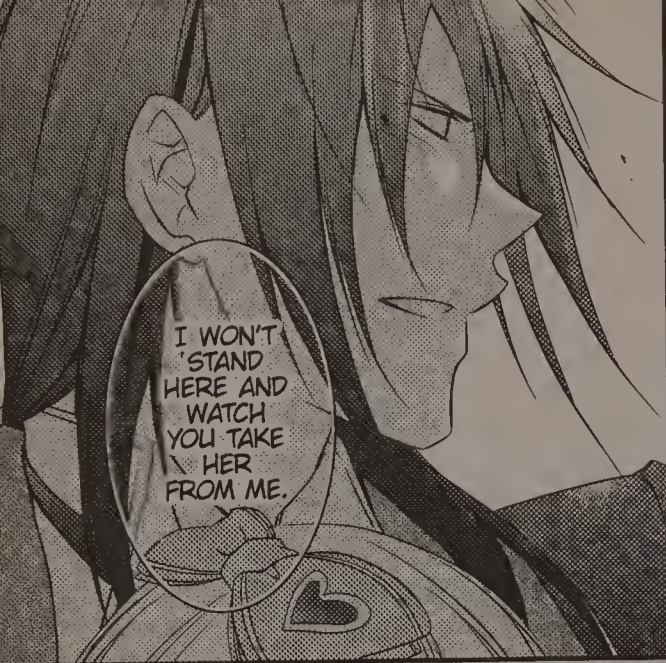
WHAT'S
GONNA
HAPPEN
TO YOU
WHEN I
LEAVE
YOUR
WORLD?

WILL YOU
BE
LONELY...

WILL I
BE
LEAVING
YOU
ALONE?

OR WILL
YOU KEEP
SOMEONE
ELSE
BY YOUR
SIDE?

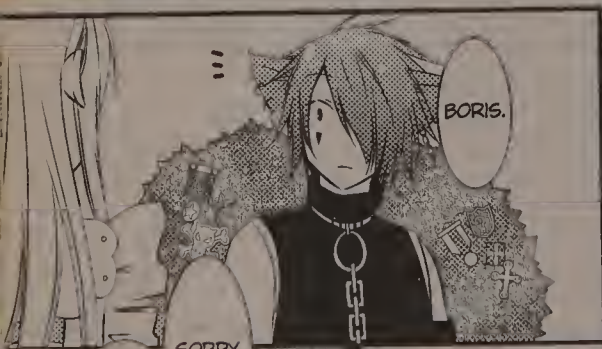




I WON'T
STAND
HERE AND
WATCH
YOU TAKE
HER
FROM ME.

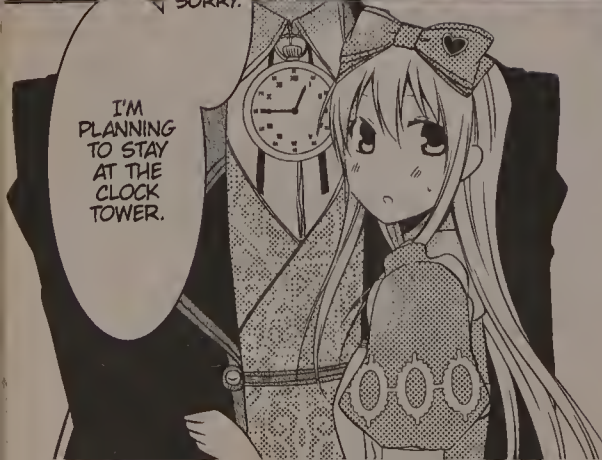


AND MIND
YOUR
WANDERING
HANDS...



BORIS.

SORRY.



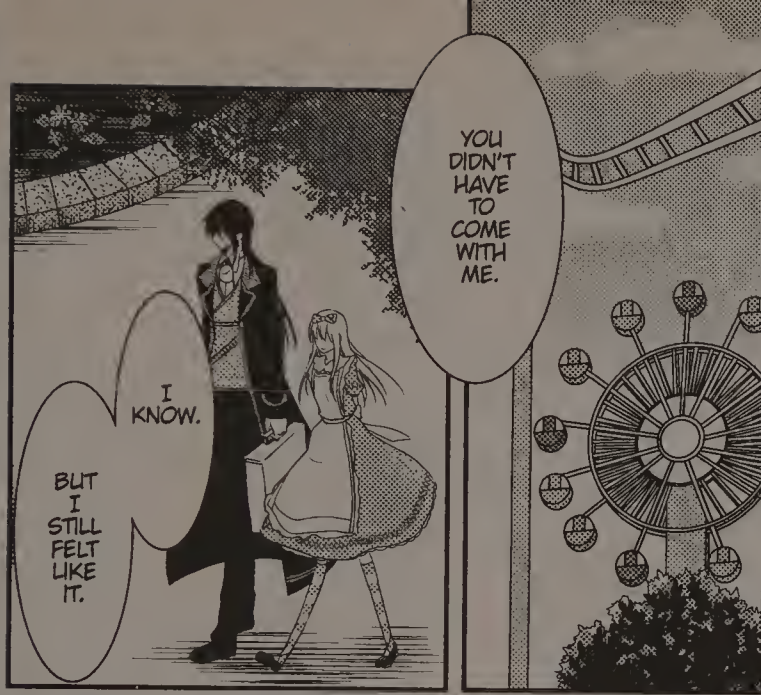
I'M
PLANNING
TO STAY
AT THE
CLOCK
TOWER.



HUNH.

BUT
I LIKE
HER,
MAN.

AND I
THINK I
COULD
MAKE HER
HAPPY,
UNLIKE
YOU.



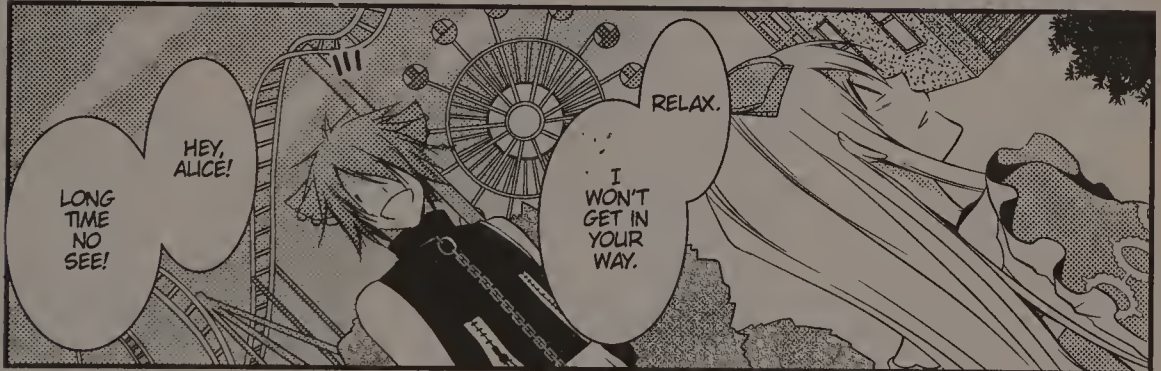
YOU
DIDN'T
HAVE
TO
COME
WITH
ME.

I
KNOW.

BUT
I
STILL
FELT
LIKE
IT.

IT
KILLS
ME.

I
DIDN'T
WANT
TO
FALL
IN
LOVE...!



RELAX.

I
WON'T
GET
IN
YOUR
WAY.

HEY,
ALICE!

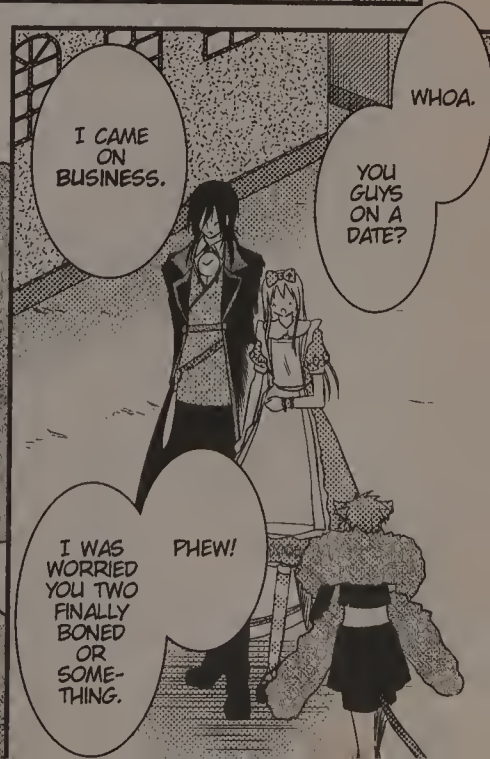
LONG
TIME
NO
SEE!



HEY,
ALICE.

DITCH
THIS
WORKAHOLIC,
AND
COME
PARTY
WITH
ME.

YOU
CAN
STILL
LIVE
HERE
IF
YOU
WANT,
Y'KNOW.



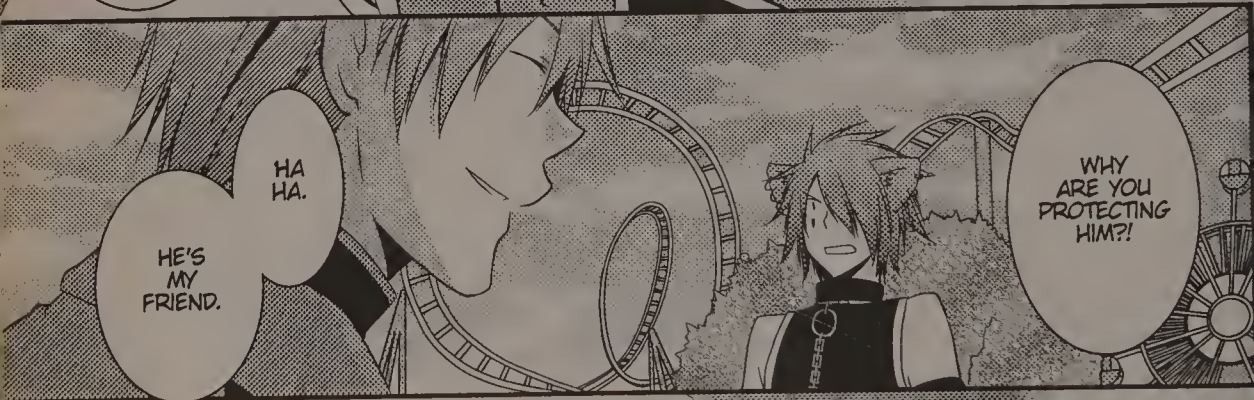
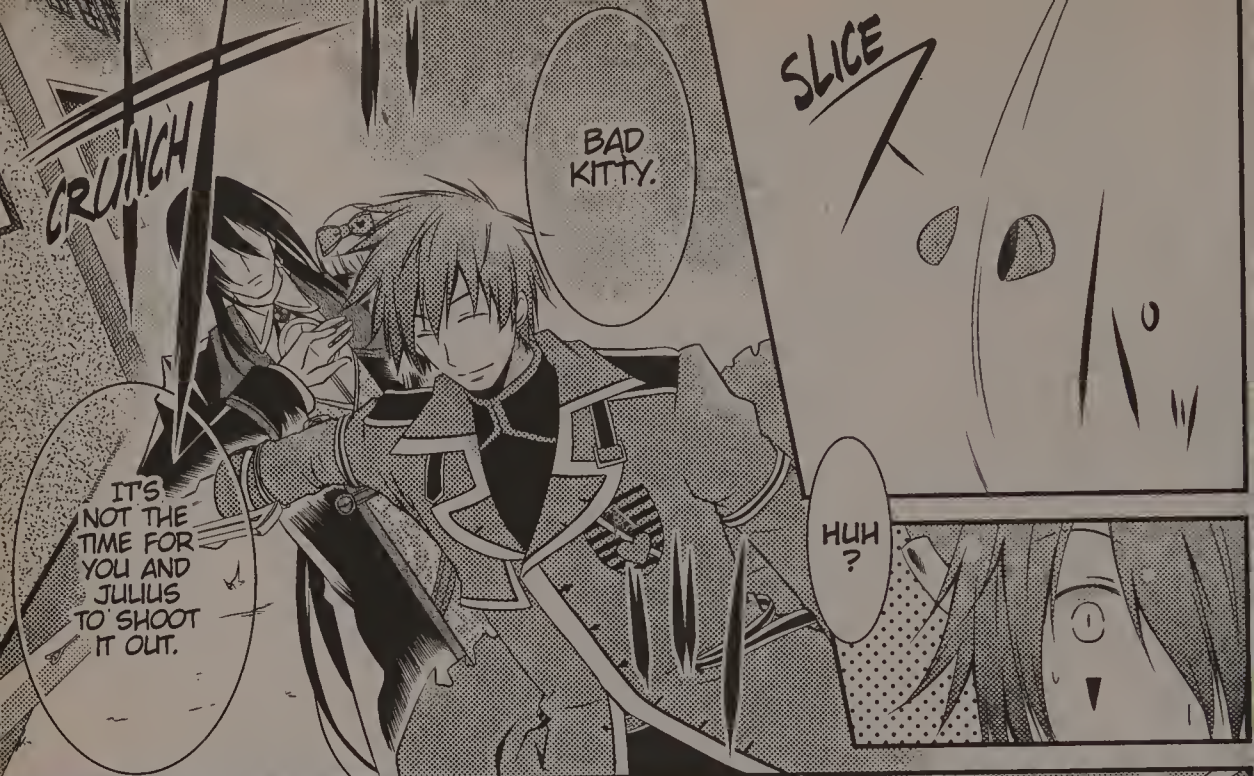
I
CAME
ON
BUSINESS.

WHOA.

YOU
GUYS
ON
A
DATE?

I
WAS
WORRIED
YOU
TWO
FINALLY
BONED
OR
SOME-
THING.

PHEW!



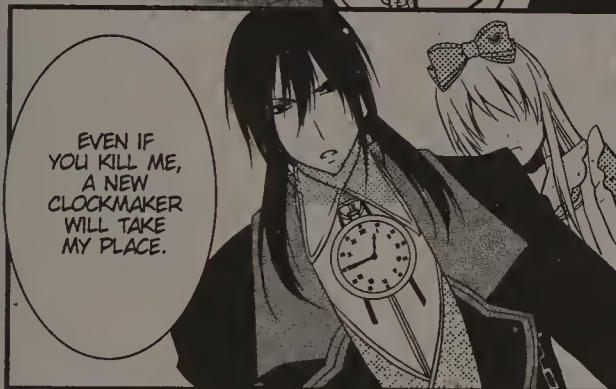


YOU
WOULDN'T
STAY...

IN AN
EMPTY
TOWER.

THEN
I CAN
FIX
THAT.

BECAUSE
OF THE
CLOCK-
MAKER?

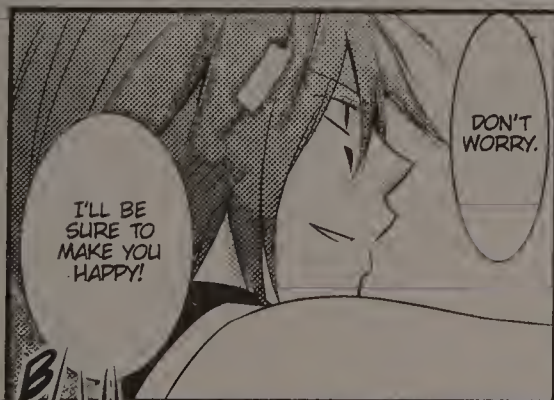


EVEN IF
YOU KILL ME,
A NEW
CLOCKMAKER
WILL TAKE
MY PLACE.



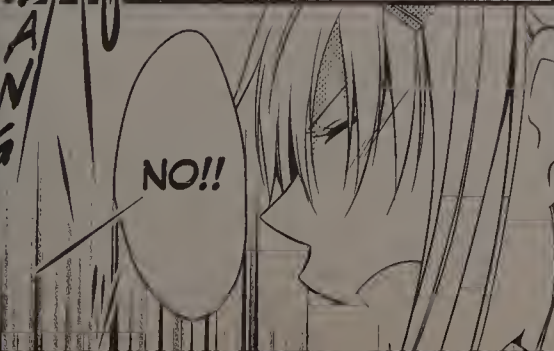
GIVE
IT
UP.

I'M
FASTER
THAN
YOU,
CLOCK-
MAKER.



I'LL BE
SURE TO
MAKE YOU
HAPPY!

DON'T
WORRY.



NO!!



BORIS,
THIS
ISN'T
FUNNY!

NOT
TRYING
TO BE.



BUT ALICE
SAID WE
CAN'T BE
REPLACED.

NOT
IN HER
MIND.



JULIUS?

WH...

WHAT'S WRONG?

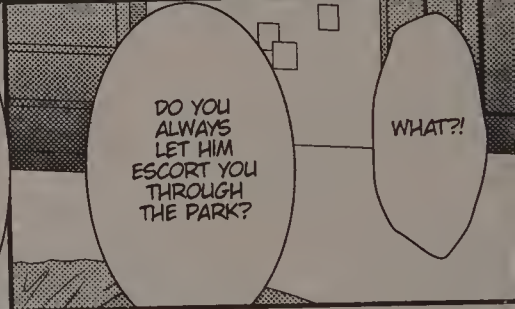
SLUNK

WOBBLE

A WOMAN
YOUR AGE
SHOULD
BE MORE
ATTRACTED
TO A MAN
LIKE HIM.



WELL...
PARKS
AREN'T
FUN
ALONE.



DO YOU
ALWAYS
LET HIM
ESCORT YOU
THROUGH
THE PARK?

WHAT?!



TUG

HE'S
NOT
THE
MAN I
LOVE.

IS
HE
FUN?

AND
GOWLAND
WAS
WORKING.

I
JUST...

I'M...
USELESS.

LOOK,
IT'S
TOTALLY
INNOCENT!

I HADN'T
REALIZED.
I WAS 'IN
LOVE WITH
YOU, YET.

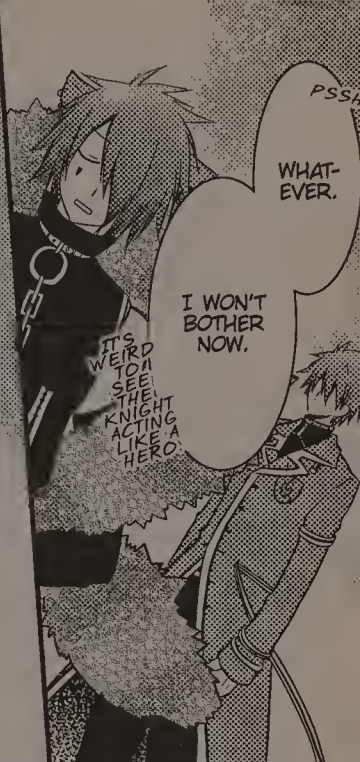


THEN
I'LL
TAKE MY
TIME
TO WIN
YOU.



COME TO THE
PARK
ALONE
NEXT
TIME.

ALICE.

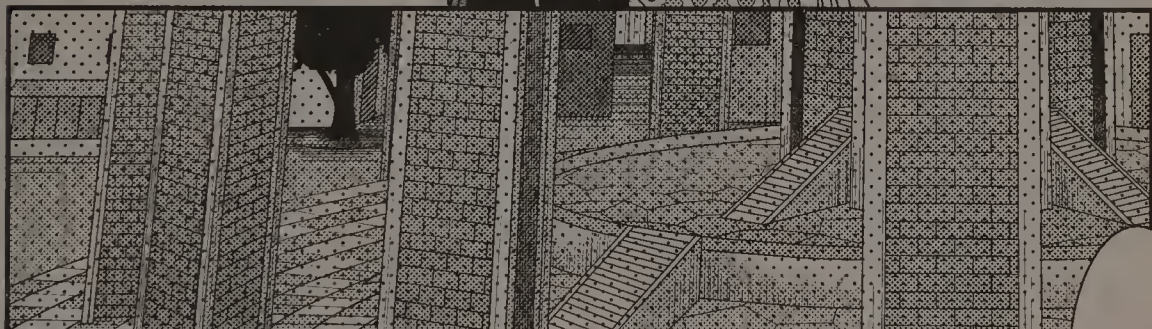


PSSA

WHAT-
EVER.

I WON'T
BOTHER
NOW.

IT'S
WEIRD
TO
SEE
THE
KNIGHT
ACTING
LIKE
A
HERO



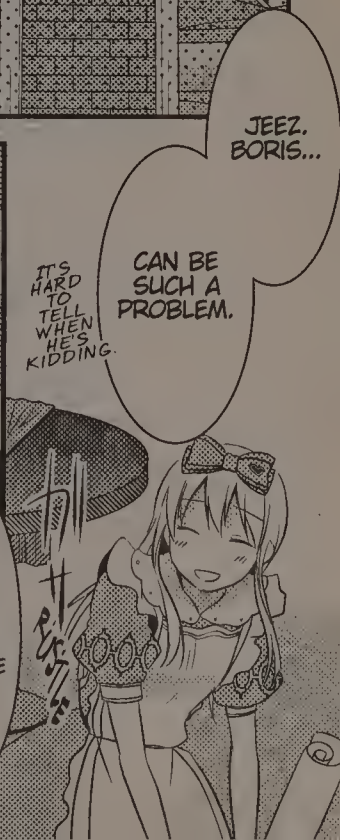
HUH?

PULL?

THEN
HE'S
DONE
THAT
BEFORE
?

IT'S
HARD
TO
TELL
WHEN
HE'S
KIDDING.

CAN BE
SUCH A
PROBLEM.



JEEZ.
BORIS...



THAT'S--

I DON'T WANNA
BE LEFT
BEHIND.

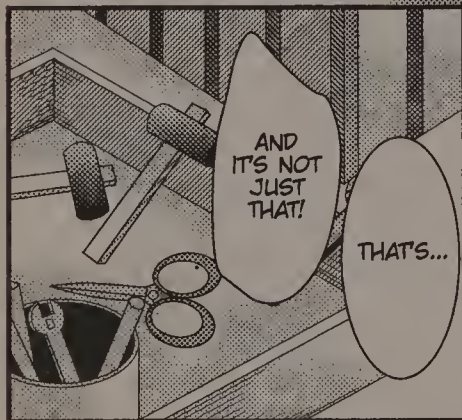
I
COULDN'T
STAND
HEARING
THAT.

WHEN
BORIS
AIMED
HIS
GUN AT
YOU...

BACK
AT THE
PARK.

YOU
SAID YOU
COULD BE
REPLACED.

I'M
SORRY!



AND
IT'S NOT
JUST
THAT!

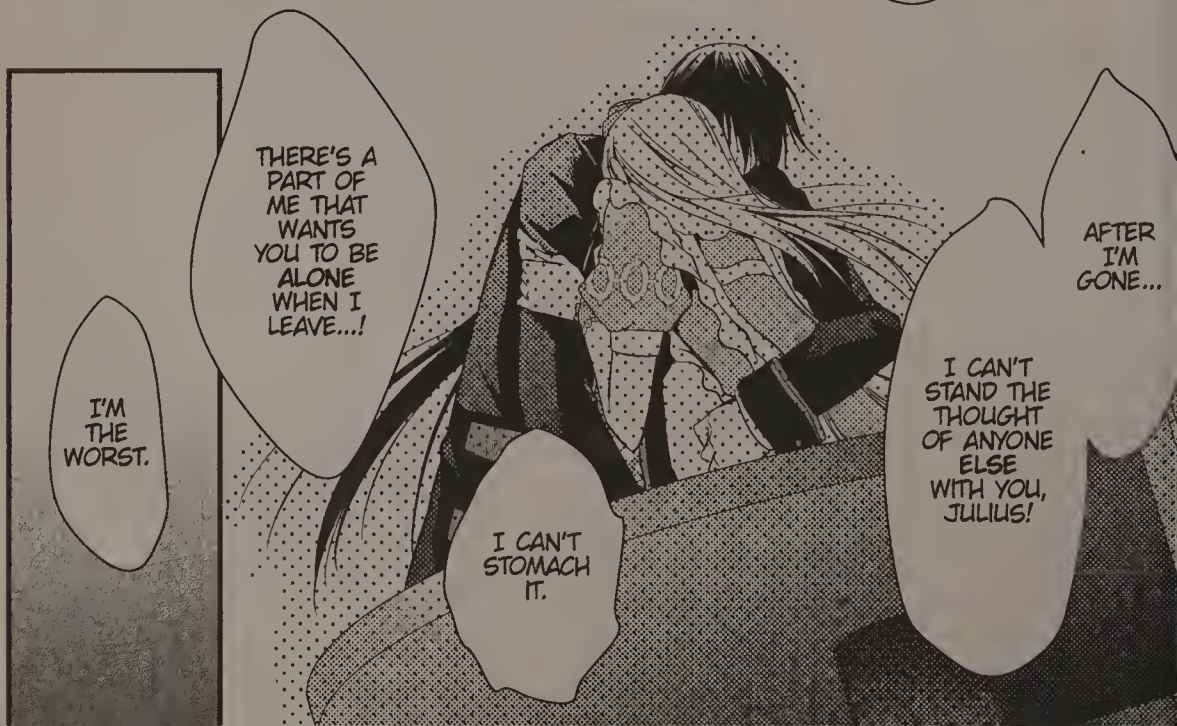
THAT'S...

I'M SO
SELFISH,
JULIUS!

SQUEEZE

HOW CAN I
THINK THAT
WHEN I'LL
LEAVE YOU
BEHIND?

WHEN I
GO BACK
TO MY
WORLD?!



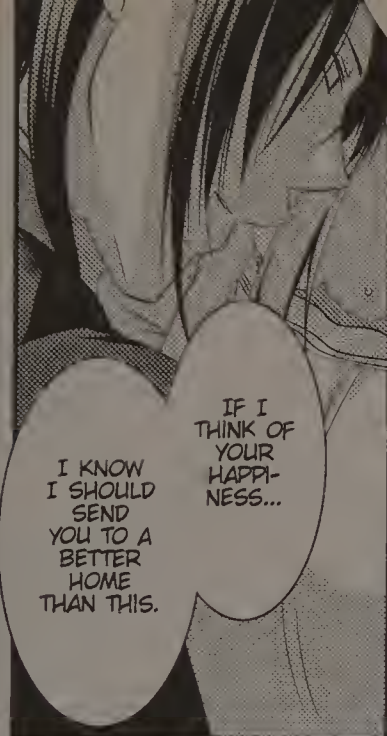
I'M
THE
WORST.

THERE'S A
PART OF
ME THAT
WANTS
YOU TO BE
ALONE
WHEN I
LEAVE...!

I CAN'T
STOMACH
IT.

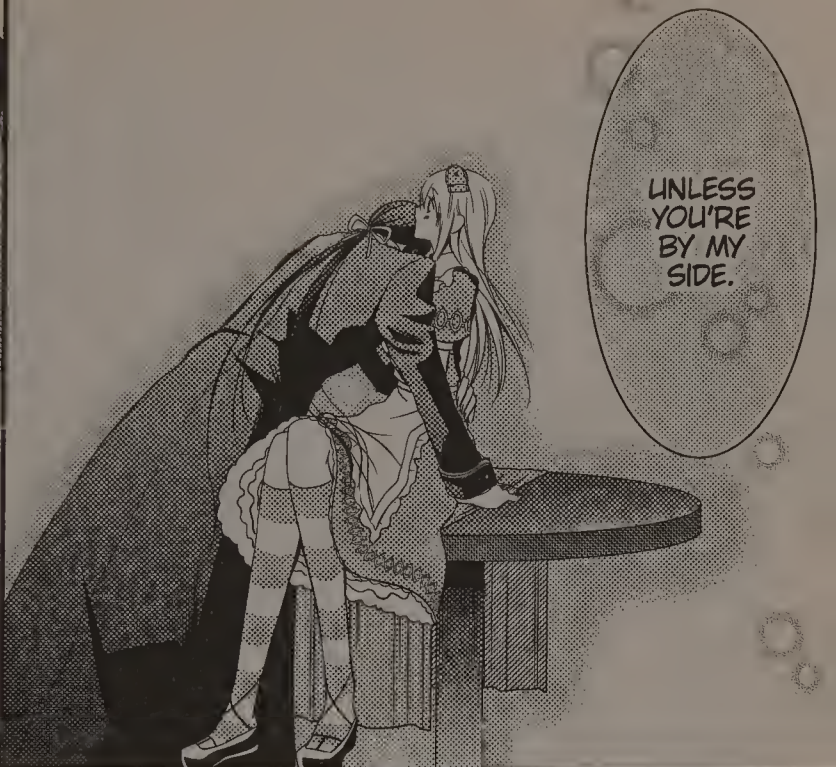
I CAN'T
STAND THE
THOUGHT
OF ANYONE
ELSE
WITH YOU,
JULIUS!

AFTER
I'M
GONE...



I KNOW
I SHOULD
SEND
YOU TO A
BETTER
HOME
THAN THIS.

IF I
THINK OF
YOUR
HAPPI-
NESS...



UNLESS
YOU'RE
BY MY
SIDE.



SO I
HAVE NO
RIGHT TO
COMPLAIN
WHEN YOU
SEEK IT
FROM
OTHER
PEOPLE.

I DON'T
KNOW
HOW TO
MAKE
YOU
HAPPY.



I-I'M
JUST
AS
BAD.

NO!

ARE YOU...
DIS-
GUSTED?
BY HOW
PATHETIC
I AM?

I'M
BEGGING
YOU.
DON'T
REACH
OUT TO
THEM!

BUT
MY
HEART
CAN'T
TAKE
IT.

I'M
SORRY,
SISTER.

I
CAN'T.

I
WON'T
...

GO
HOME
....!

I
WON'T
GO
HOME...

BUT...

BUT...!

SAY
IT...!

TELL
ME
YOU'LL
STAY.

B-
BUT...

I HAVE
TO GO
HOME!

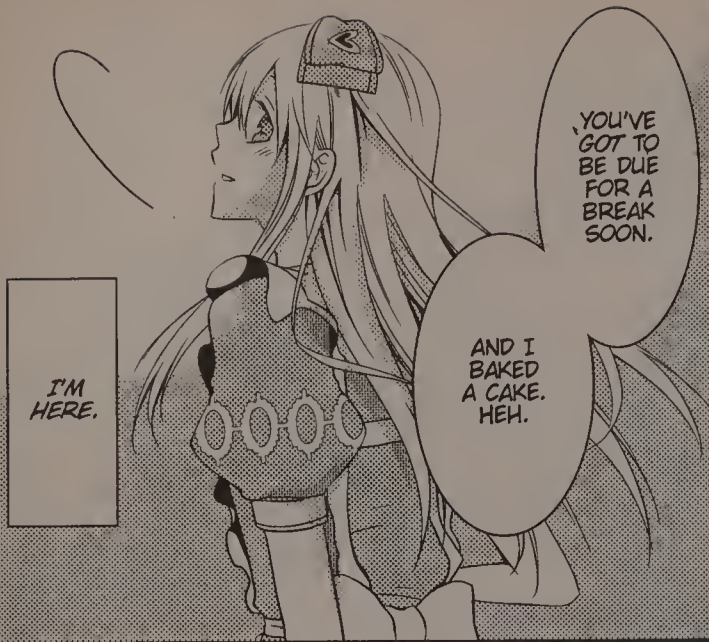
THEN
DON'T
LEAVE.

YOU
DON'T.

YOU CAN
STAY
WITH ME
FOREVER.

—
...

SA
4
4
4
4
7



YOU'VE GOT TO BE DUE FOR A BREAK SOON.

AND I BAKED A CAKE. HEH.



IF YOU KEEP SKULKING IN THE SHADOWS, YOU'RE GONNA SPROUT MUSH-ROOMS!

NOT TRUE.



BECAUSE I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU DROPPING DEAD!

YOU'RE GROWING LOUDER BY THE DAY.

SIGH.

I DECIDED TO STAY HERE...

IN THIS NEW WORLD...



UGH.

THAT TIME ALREADY?

GRIN

GRIN

WITH THIS BEAUTIFUL MAN.

I
HATE
TO
SAY
IT...

BUT HE
WAS
RIGHT.

NIGHTMARE
LAUGHED
WHEN HE
TOLD ME
"YOU CAN'T
GUESS THE
WINNER
UNTIL ALL
THE CARDS
ARE DEALT."

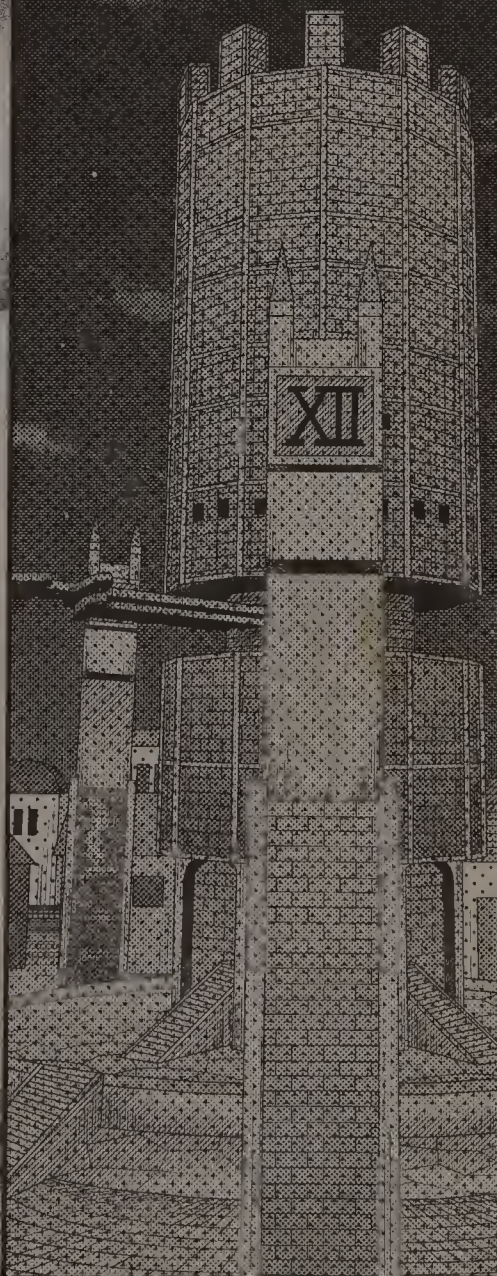
I'LL
STAY
WITH
YOU
FOR-
EVER.

I WAS SO
DESPERATE
TO GO
BACK TO
MY WORLD
BACK
THEN.

BUT MY
DESIRE
EVENTUALLY
FADED...

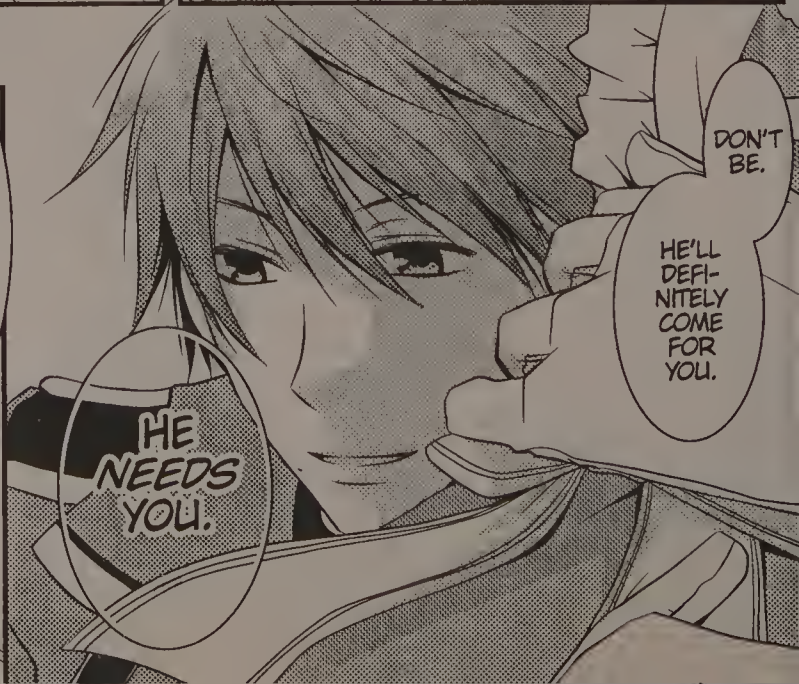
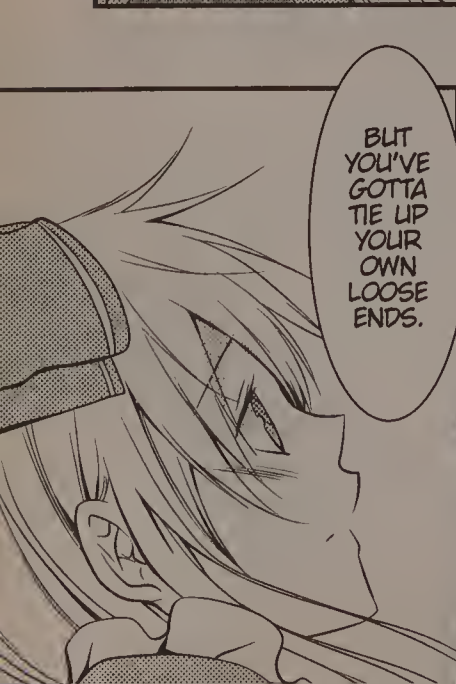
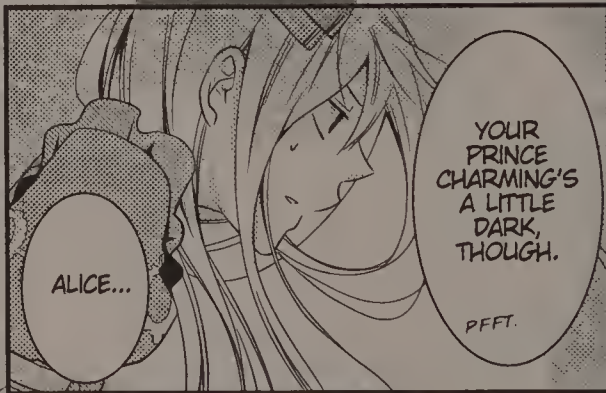
AND NOW
I FEEL
AT HOME
HERE.
IT'S A
LITTLE
DISTURB-
ING.

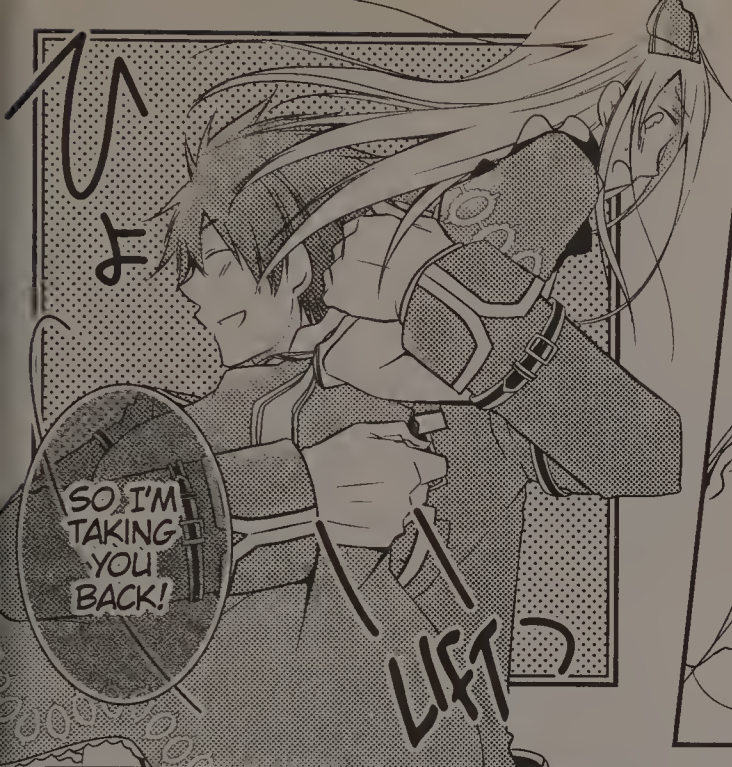
GOD,
JULIUS!





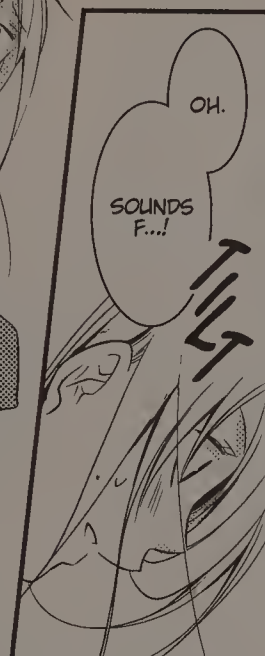
ACE
...!





SO I'M
TAKING
YOU
BACK!

LIFT



SOUNDS
F...!

OH.



FOR
WHAT?

THERE'S
GONNA
BE A
BALL
AT THE
CASTLE,
ALICE.



YOU'RE
STILL A
GUEST OF
HEART
CASTLE.

I'M NOT
JOKING.

QUIT
JOKING!

ACE!

GLITTER



BETTER
COME
TO THE
PARTY
AND CLAIM
YOUR GIRL,
JULIUS.

STRUGGLE

STRUGGLE

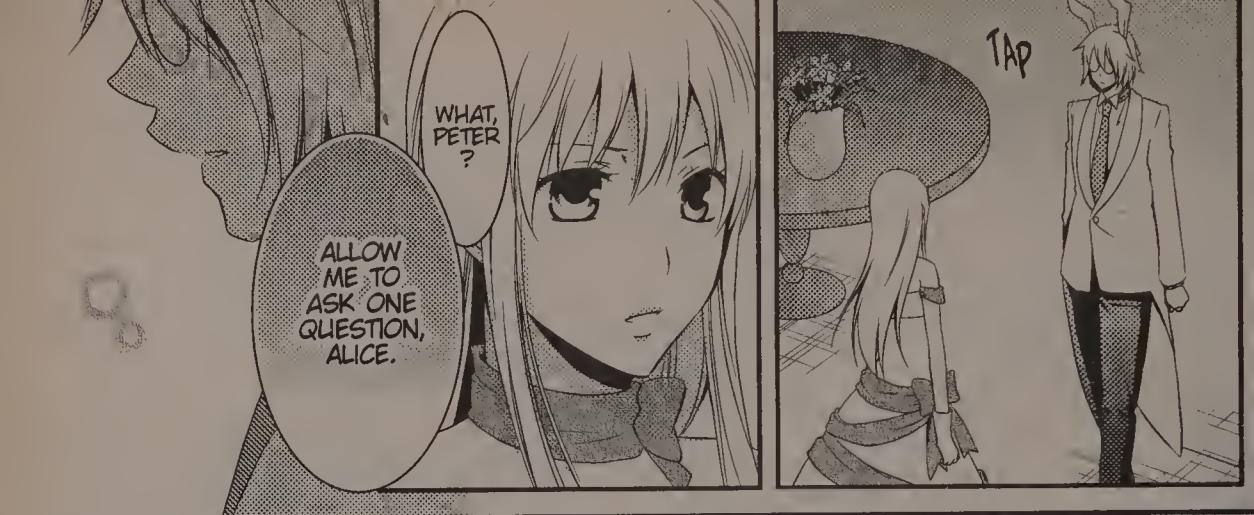


PUT
ME
DOWN
!!

NO!

YOU'VE
BEEN A
RUNAWAY
LONG
ENOUGH.

SEE
YOU AT
THE
BALL!



WHAT,
PETER?

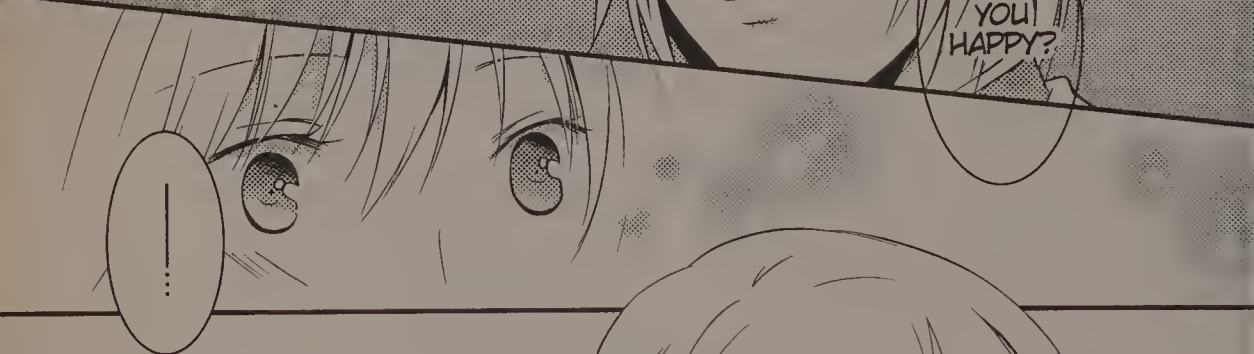
ALLOW
ME TO
ASK ONE
QUESTION,
ALICE.

TAP



RIGHT
NOW.

ARE
YOU
HAPPY?



!



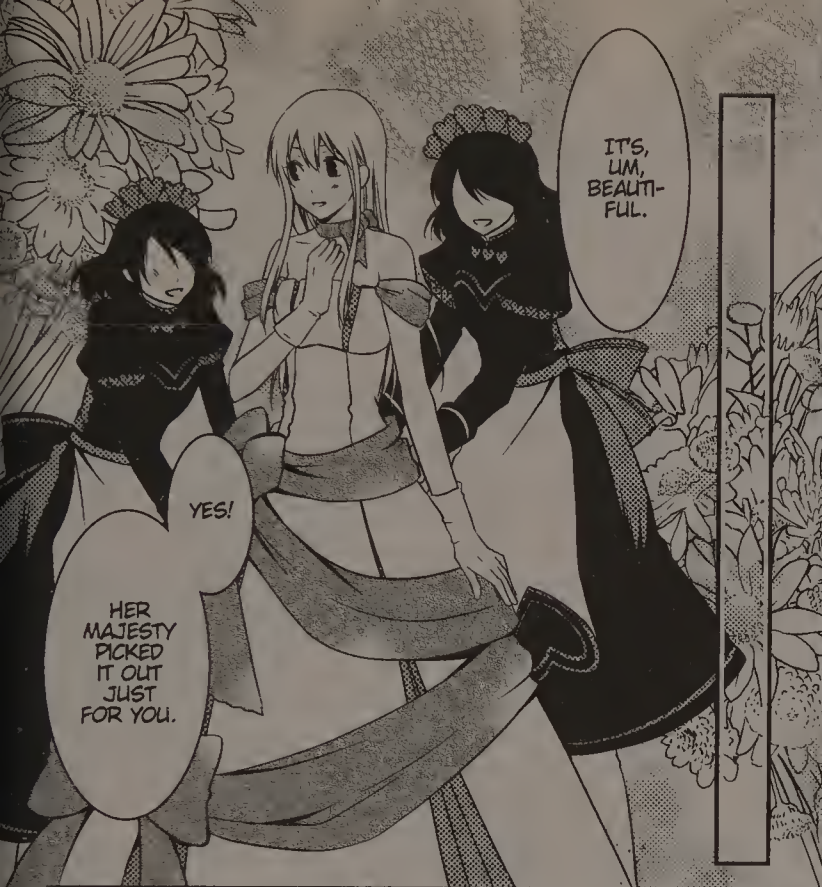
I
ORIGINALLY
HATED
YOU FOR
BRINGING
ME TO THIS
WORLD,
BUT...
NN.

DON'T
LET
THIS
GO TO
YOUR
HEAD.

NOW
I'M KINDA
GLAD
YOU
BROUGHT
ME
HERE.

YEAH.

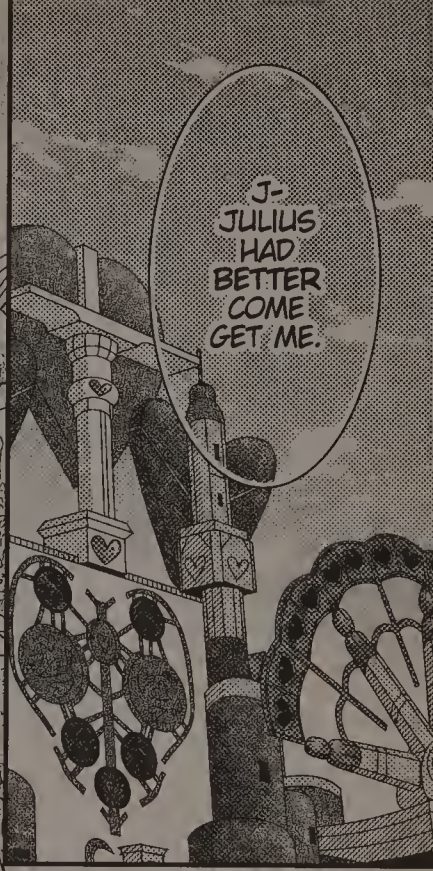
I'M
HAPPY.



IT'S,
UM,
BEAUTI-
FUL.

YES!

HER
MAJESTY
PICKED
IT OUT
JUST
FOR YOU.



J-
JULIUS
HAD
BETTER
COME
GET ME.

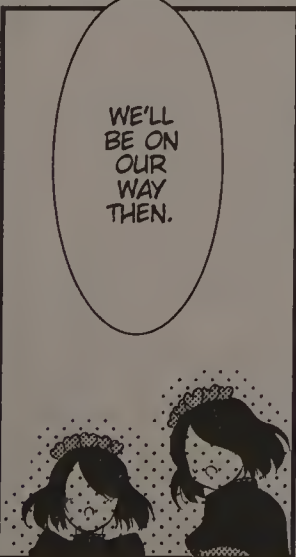


YEAH?

KNOCK-
KNOCK



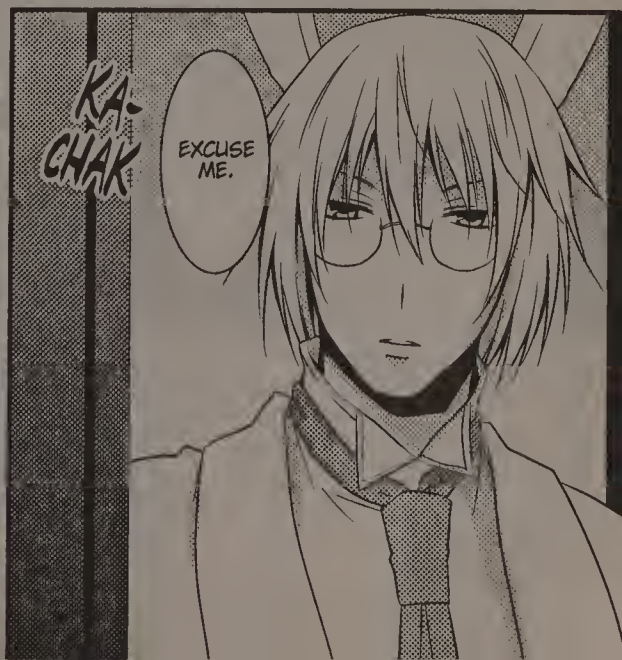
VIVALDI...



WE'LL
BE ON
OUR
WAY
THEN.

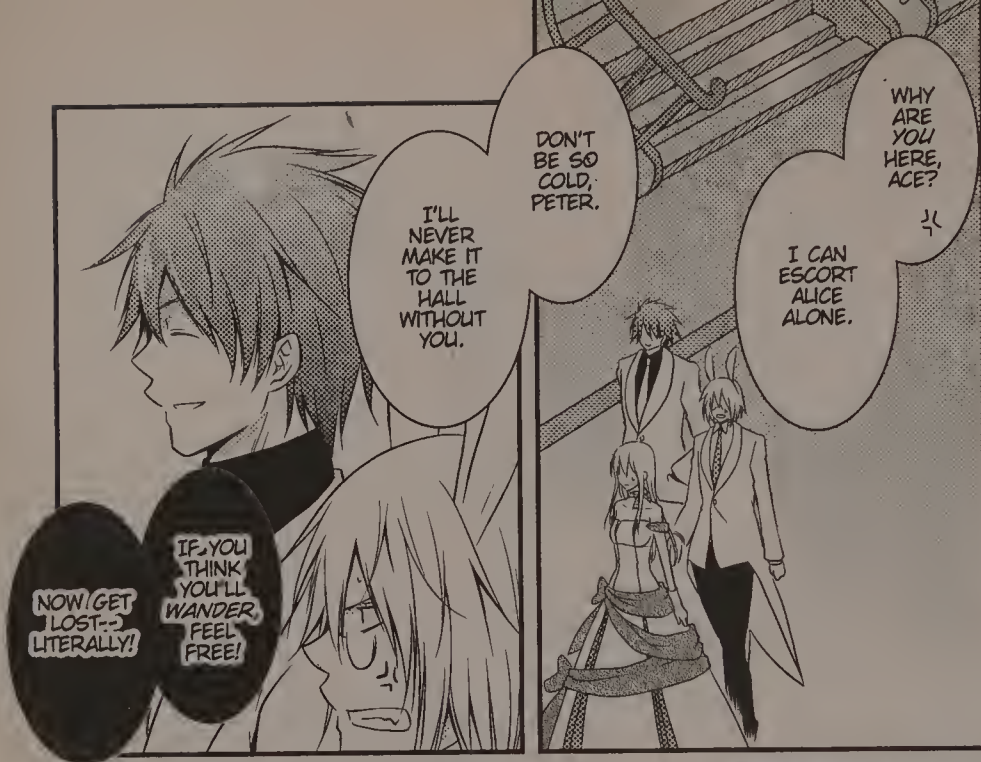


...



KA-
CHAK

EXCUSE
ME.



DON'T
BE SO
COLD,
PETER.

I'LL
NEVER
MAKE IT
TO THE
HALL
WITHOUT
YOU.

WHY
ARE
YOU
HERE,
ACE?

I CAN
ESCORT
ALICE
ALONE.

HMPH.

NOW I GET
LOST--
LITERALLY!

IF YOU
THINK
YOU'LL
WANDER,
FEEL
FREE!

I HOPE
JULIUS
REALLY
COMES
FOR ME.



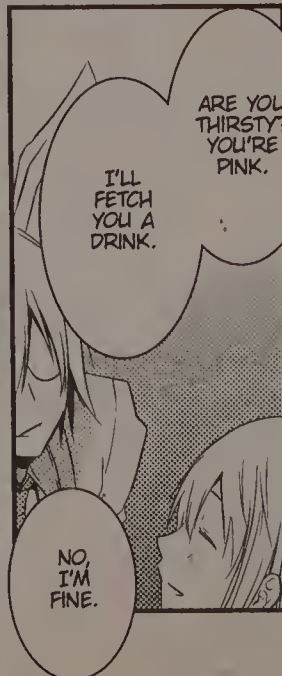
OH.
RIGHT.

HERE
WE ARE,
ALICE.



THEN
PERHAPS
SOME
FOOD?

WELL...



ARE YOU
THIRSTY?
YOU'RE
PINK.

I'LL
FETCH
YOU A
DRINK.

NO,
I'M
FINE.





I SHOULD
BE
PLEASED,
YET MY
EYES
ARE
WET--

PETER?!

HOW
SPLENDID,
MY
DEAR...

WHAT
A FINE
THING
TO
HEAR...!

OH?
HOW
ODD.

THANK
YOU,
PETER.

THANK
YOU.

MY
PLEA-
SURE.



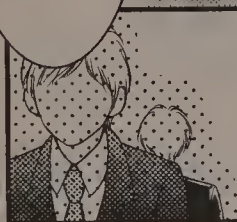
THAT'S WEIRDLY COOL OF YOU, PETER.



I ONLY CARE THAT HER HAPPINESS REIGNS.

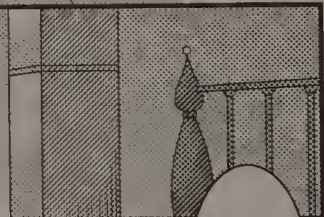
I'LL BITE MY TONGUE...

AND BRUSH OFF MY PAINS...



LOOK FOR IT YOURSELF!

SO WHERE'S THE BOOZE?

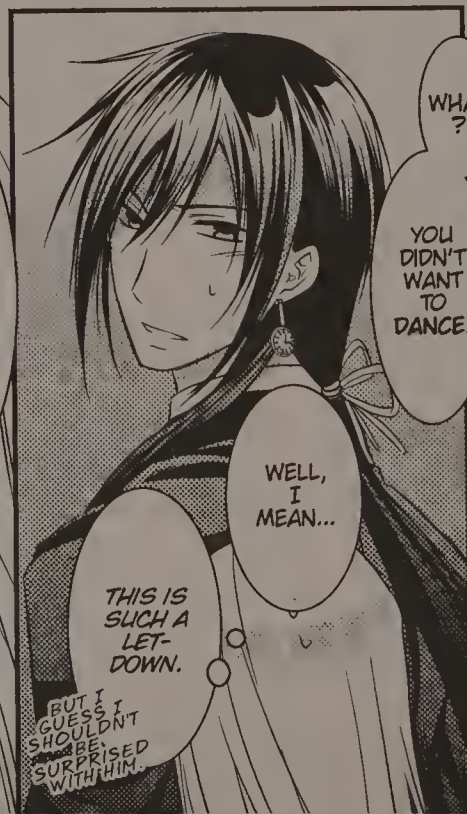


WE'RE GOING HOME.



YOU DON'T... WANT TO COME BACK TO THE TOWER?

THAT'S NOT IT!



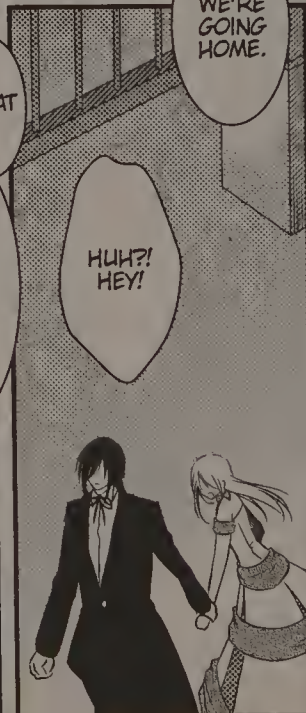
WHAT?

YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DANCE.

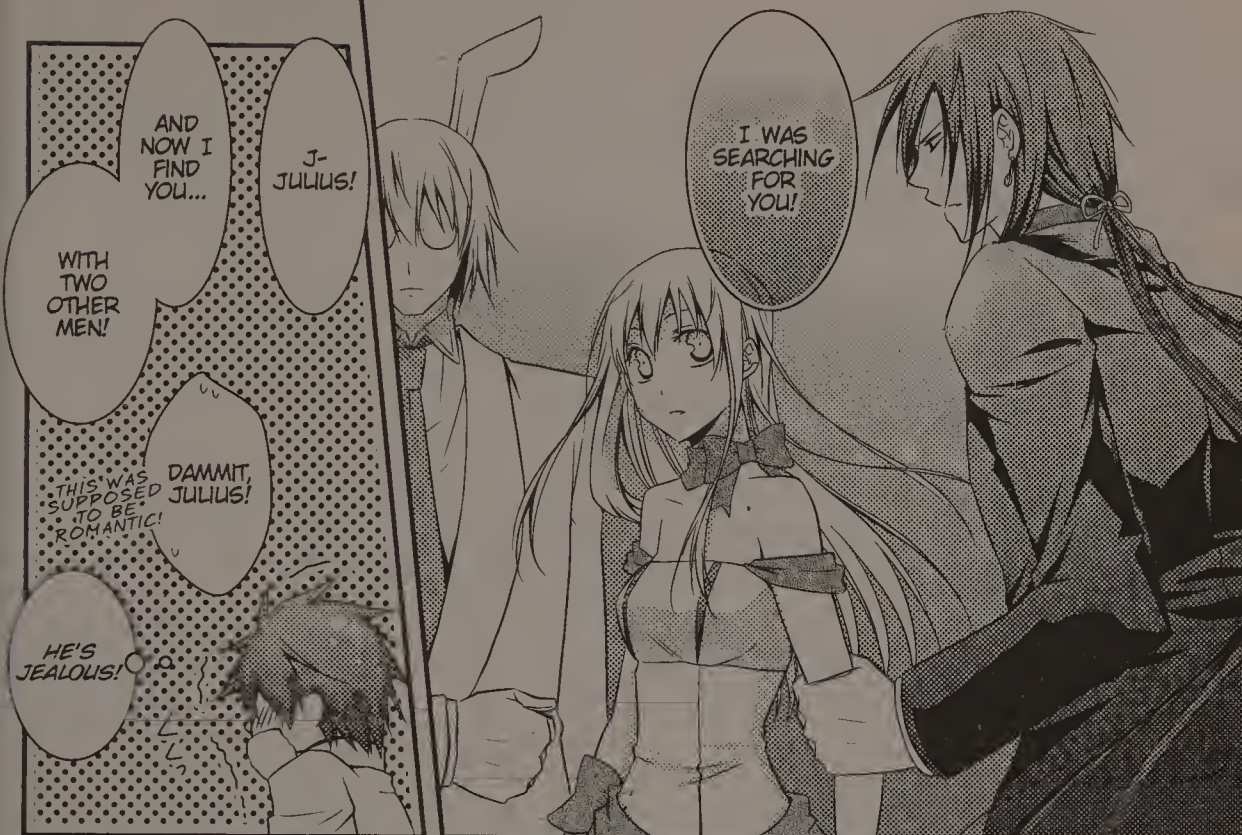
WELL, I MEAN...

THIS IS SUCH A LET-DOWN.

BUT I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED WITH HIM.



HUH?! HEY!



AND NOW I FIND YOU...

WITH TWO OTHER MEN!

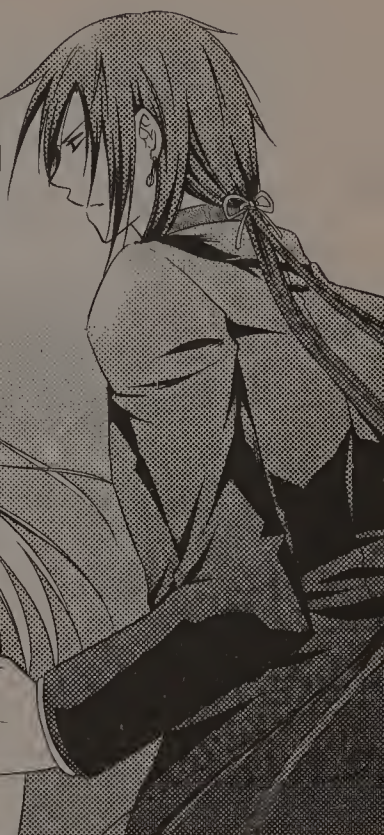
J-JULIUS!

DAMMIT, JULIUS!

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ROMANTIC!

HE'S JEALOUS!

I WAS SEARCHING FOR YOU!

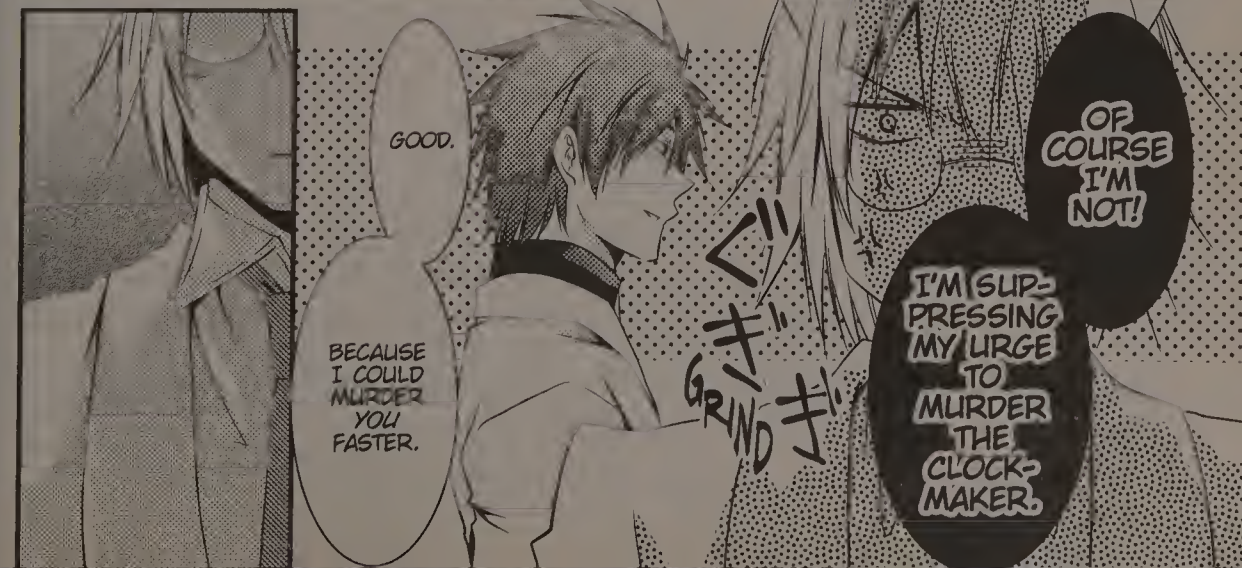


WHOA.

YOU'RE REALLY OKAY WITH THIS, PETER?

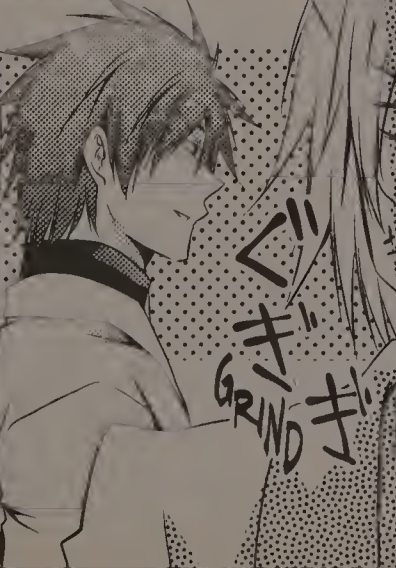


HUH?



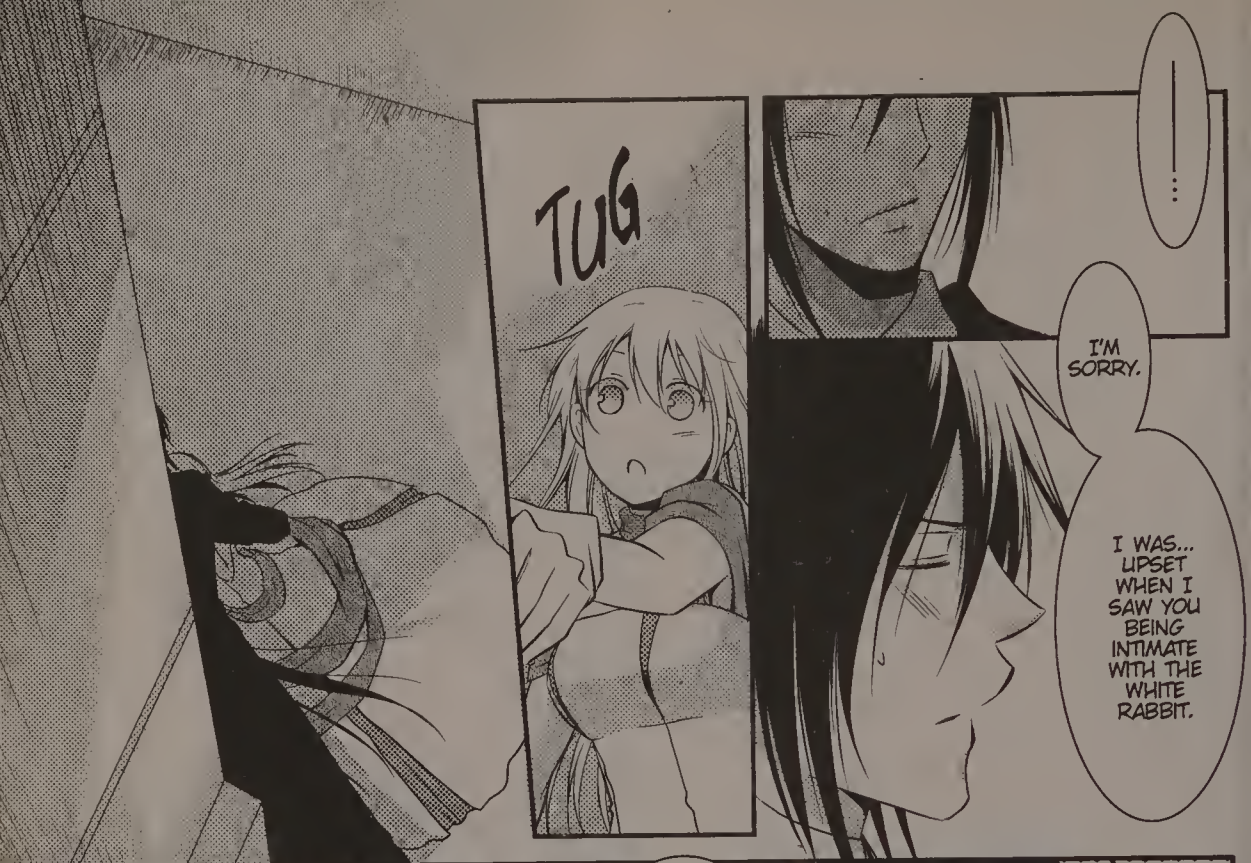
GOOD.

BECAUSE I COULD MURDER YOU FASTER.



OF COURSE I'M NOT!

I'M SUPPRESSING MY URGE TO MURDER THE CLOCK-MAKER.



TUG

...

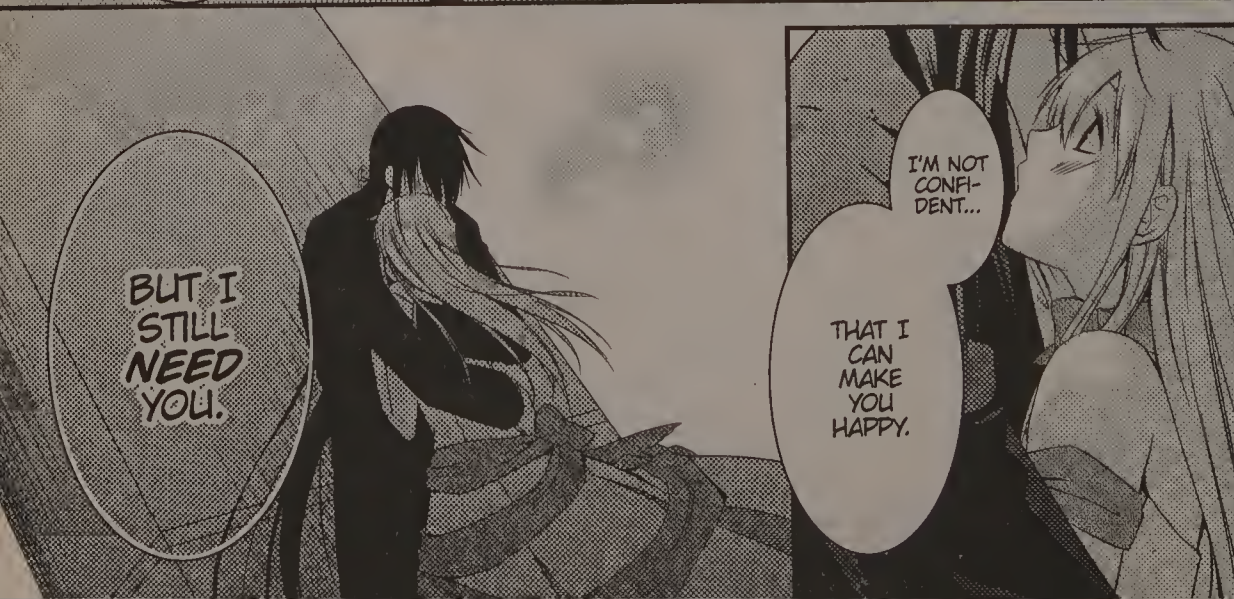
I'M SORRY.

I WAS...
UPSET
WHEN I
SAW YOU
BEING
INTIMATE
WITH THE
WHITE
RABBIT.



AND I CAN'T
ENTERTAIN
YOU, WHICH
I KNOW IS
WHAT DRAWS
YOU TO THE
CHESHIRE
CAT.

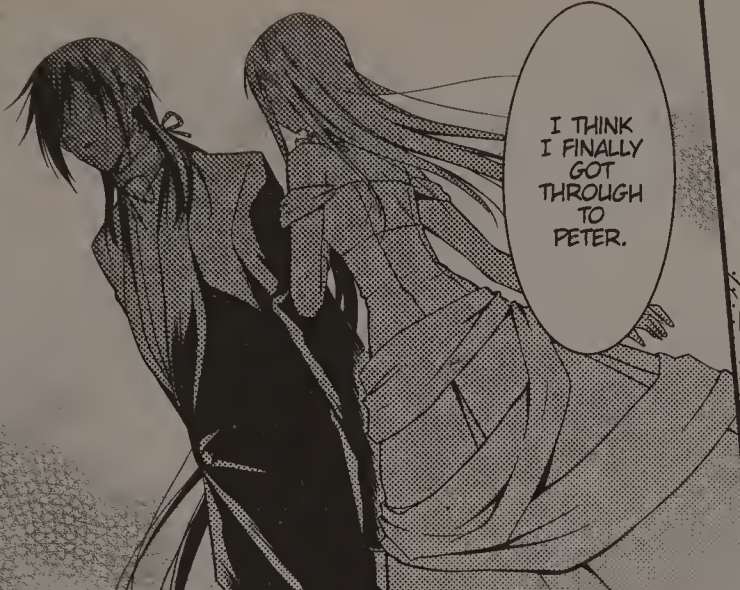
I CAN'T
WAIT ON
YOU HAND
AND FOOT
LIKE HE
DOES.



BUT I
STILL
NEED
YOU.

I'M NOT
CONFIDENT...

THAT I
CAN
MAKE
YOU
HAPPY.



HE
KNOWS...

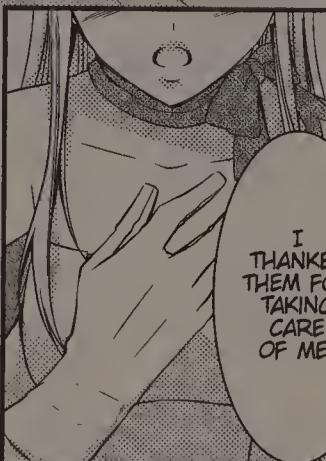
HOW I
FEEL
ABOUT
YOU.

I THINK
I FINALLY
GOT
THROUGH
TO
PETER.



SHE
SEEMED
DISAP-
POINTED...

BUT SHE
SMILED
WHEN SHE
SAID SHE'D
COME VISIT
THE CLOCK
TOWER.



AND I
TALKED
TO
VIVALDI.

I
THANKED
THEM FOR
TAKING
CARE
OF ME.

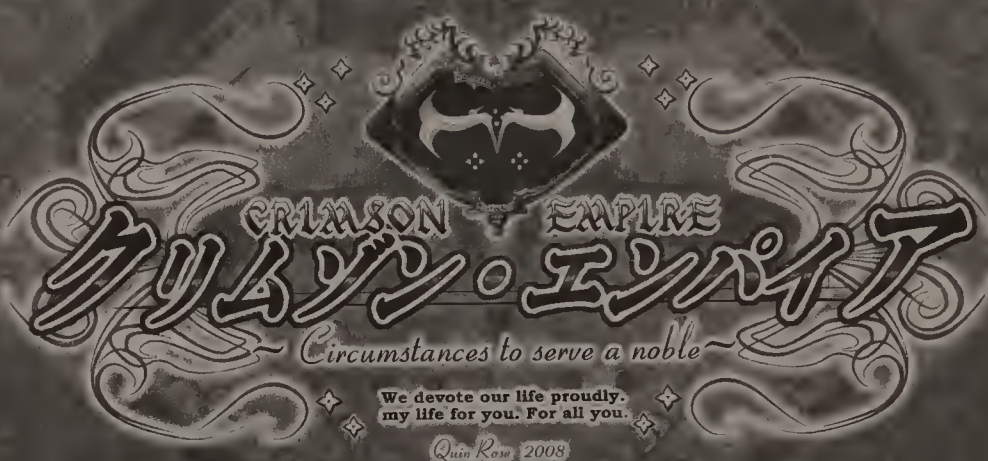


I CAN
LIVE
WHERE
I
WANT!

EVERYONE
KNOWS
I'VE LEFT
THE CASTLE
FOR GOOD.

DO YOU
GET IT,
JULIUS?

I'M NOT
PART OF
THEIR
DOMAIN
ANYMORE.

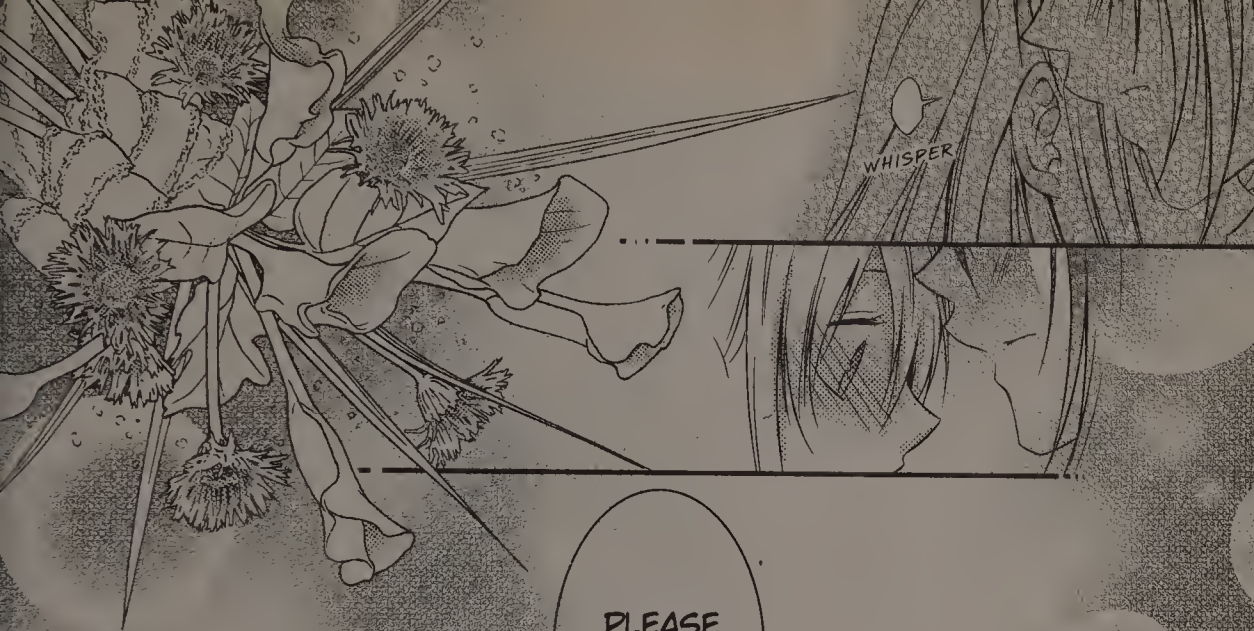


- STORY -

The setting is a country of aristocrats: a tributary nation for Luxonne. *Crimson Empire* is a love adventure game about a maid, Sheila, who works in the luxurious royal castle. But behind the lavish façade, the castle is home to a savage—and bloody—political war.

Strong and skilled, Sheila uses her position as a maid to hide her true profession: bodyguard to Prince Edvard. Sheila carries a dark past of enslavement and murder. Now she survives day to day, with only a small wish in her heart.

While navigating the power struggle between Prince Edvard and his brother, the deceptive Prince Justin, Sheila must understand and use the dangerous people who surround her. But although a brilliant fighter and tactician, Sheila is unskilled when it comes to love and friendships. Such a gap between her power and her heart could lead to a dire ending indeed!

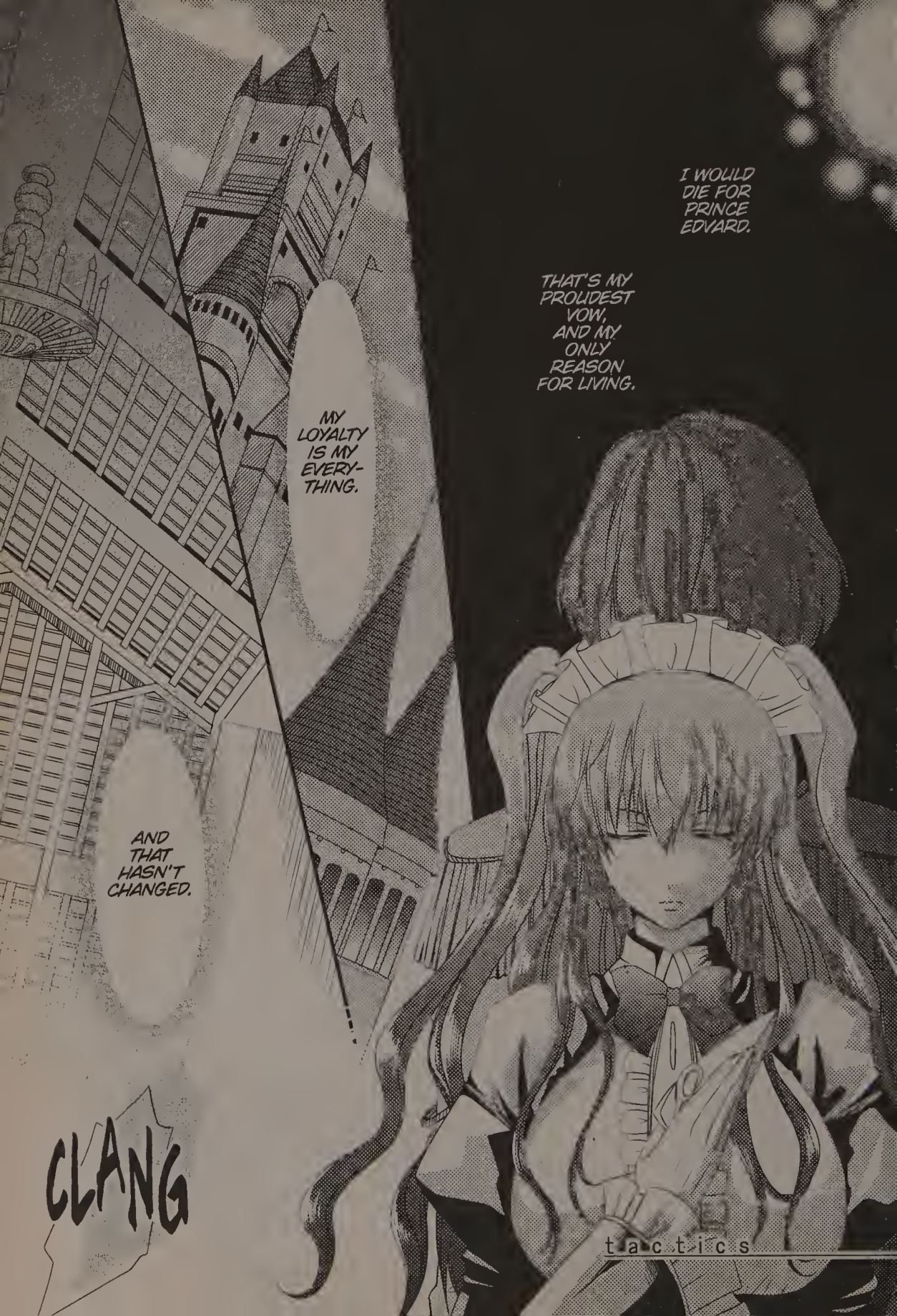


PLEASE
COME
HOME.



I AM
HOME,
JULIUS.

END



I WOULD
DIE FOR
PRINCE
EDVARD.

THAT'S MY
PROUDEST
VOW,
AND MY
ONLY
REASON
FOR LIVING.

MY
LOYALTY
IS MY
EVERY-
THING.

AND
THAT
HASN'T
CHANGED.

CLANG

tactics

Crimson Empire

Character Information

Sheila Rozen

The intensely loyal head maid to Prince Edward—and his secret bodyguard. She's a skilled leader and shrewdly political, in addition to being fierce in combat. She doesn't hide her roots as a slave.

Marshall Aid

VA: Keui Narita

Prince Justin's head servant. He argues with Sheila in public but doesn't dislike her. In private, they're intimate enough to spar peacefully.

Justin Roberulley

VA: Daisuke Hirakawa

The eldest prince, and Edward's older brother. Since his mother is of lower status, Justin falls below his younger brother in line for the throne.

Edward Winfree

VA: Kenichi Suzumura

Sheila's master. While friendly and regal on the surface, he's very condescending. He thinks of Sheila as more than a subordinate and loves her more than his own family... or so he *claims*.

Varchia Ganasch

VA: Mitsuki Saiga

Varchia, the vice-maid, is a close friend of Sheila's, and is a former slave. Her actions and words are always painfully neutral. She's trustworthy and helps Sheila in both public and private.

Rambures Dannunzio

VA: Tautiama Kisho

A commoner who was knighted after saving the king. He loves to lurk in his room and brew concoctions—which often stink and explode—instead of interacting with the nobility.

Bryon Capella

VA: Taisubisa Suzuki

Son of the marquis who one day will inherit the position and become an important pillar of the country. He seems cheerful and carefree, but rather guarded. Like his sister, he adores Sheila.

Ronalus Eckerl

VA: Daisuke Kisho

Another guest in the royal castle, Ronalus is the servant to the Queen of Luxonne. Although he enjoys a higher status by serving the queen, he has a good relationship with other servants. His role is to monitor Meissen.

Hauranne Balzola

VA: Daisuke Namikawa

A wizard staying in the royal castle who is treated as a guest, but he's been in the castle longer than anyone. He's lived a *long* life...and his real age doesn't match his looks.

Lilley Capella

VA: Miyazaki Iui

Another battle maid, but of noble birth, Lilley is fiercely loyal to Sheila. She has innate skill, and her strength is second only to Sheila's. She and her brother Bryon are very close.

Curtis Nile

VA: Akira Ishida

A deadly assassin who specializes in poisons. He raised Sheila, and nearly killed her with his vicious training. Ever since, their relationship has been strained, to say the least.

Michael Faust

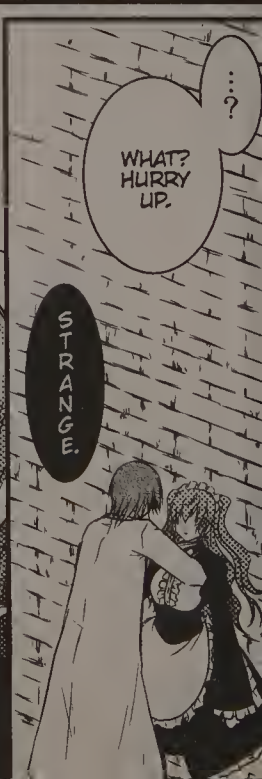
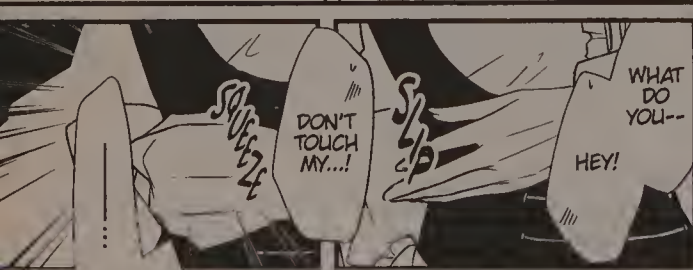
VA: Hikaru Midorikawa

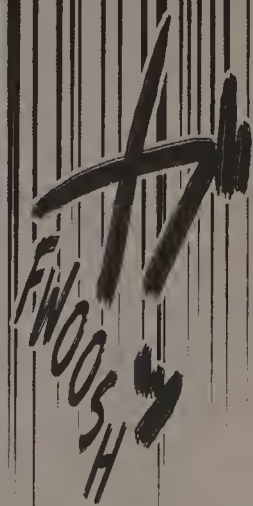
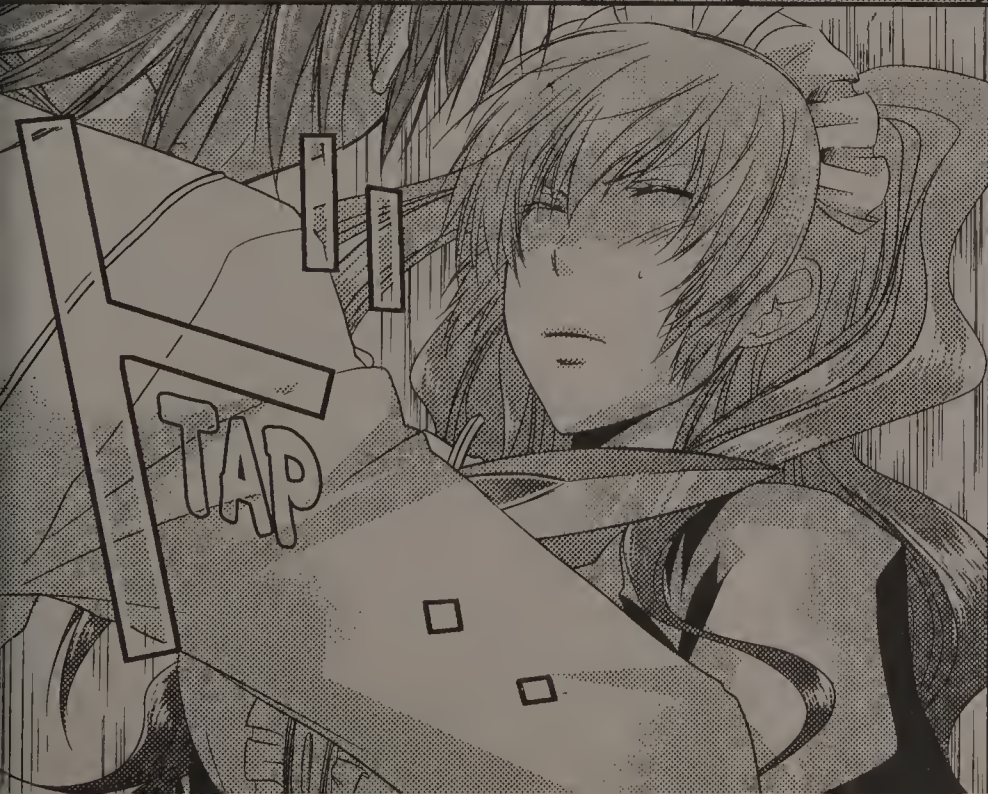
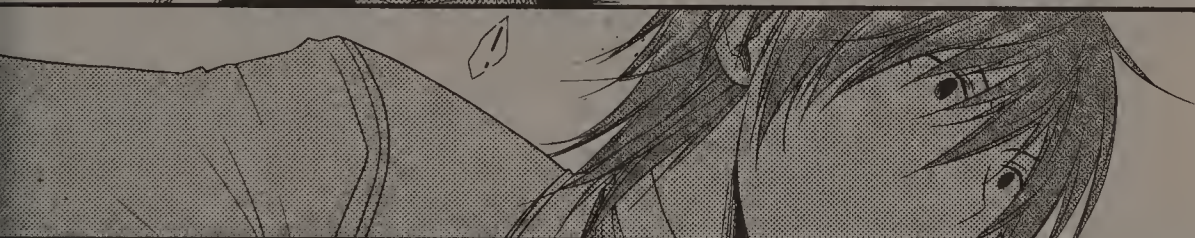
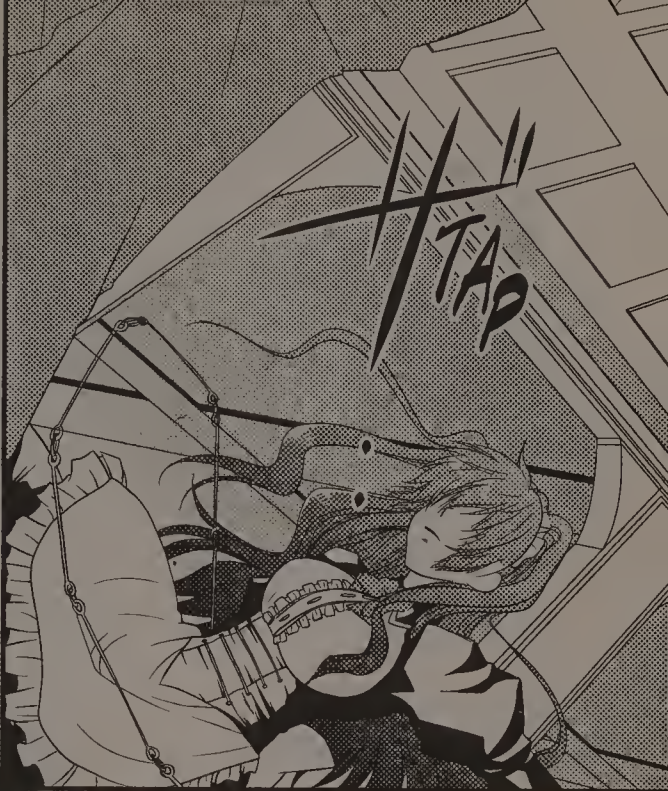
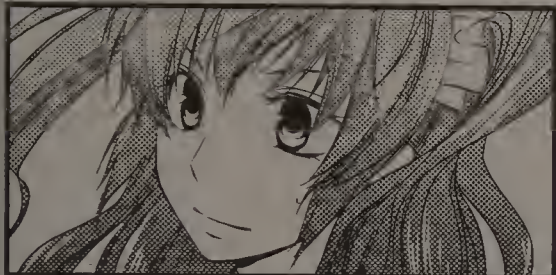
A demon who made a contract with Meissen. He's dangerously strong, monologues frequently, and is oddly nervous. His mental instability feeds his pessimism.

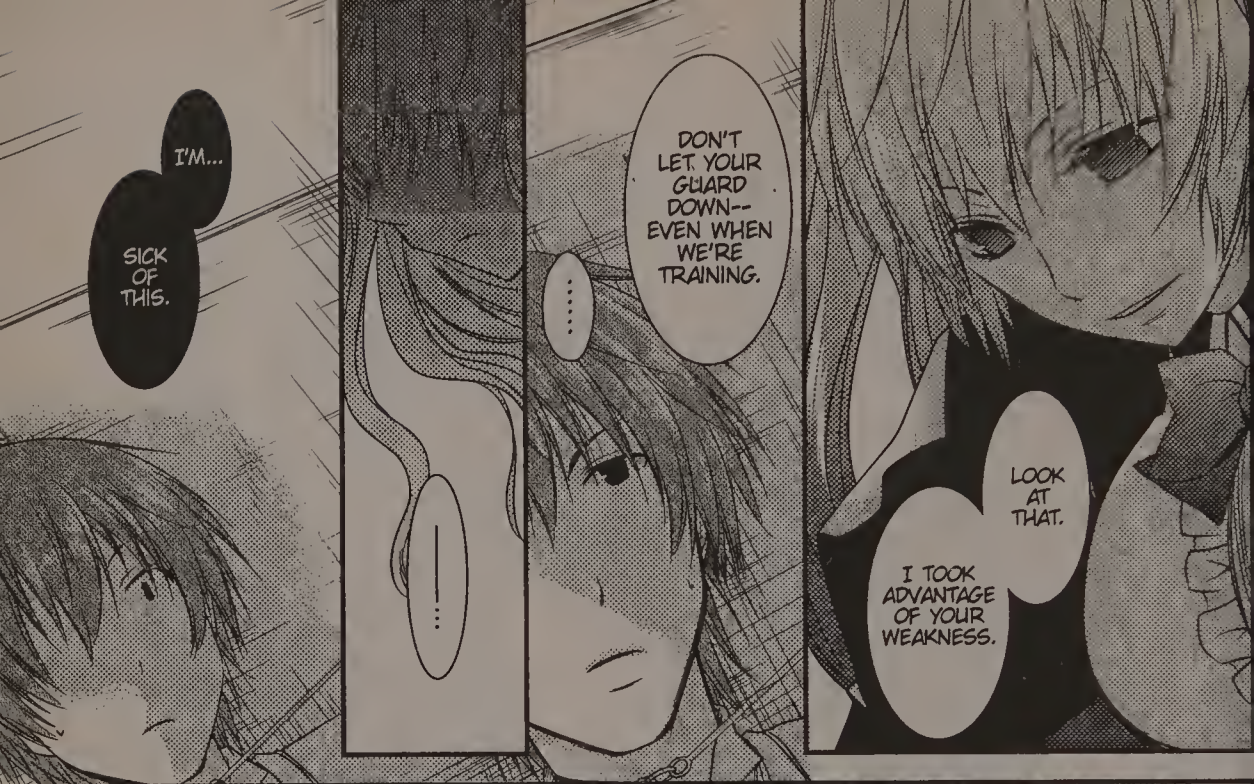
Meissen Hildegarde

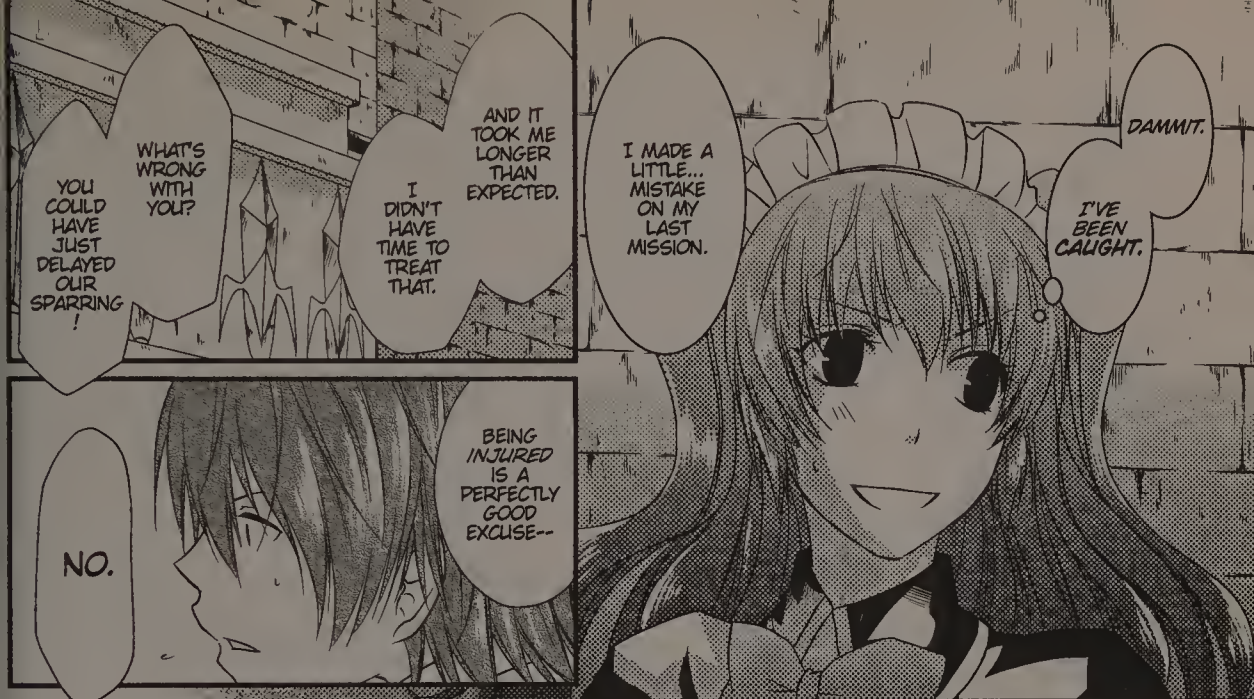
VA: Hiro Shimono

Meissen has a tendency to wander, and he's traveled all over the world. His ladykiller persona hides a powerful wizard. He's searching for the truth and is trying to become a sage...supposedly.









YOU
COULD
HAVE
JUST
DELAYED
OUR
SPARRING
!

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
YOU?

I
DIDN'T
HAVE
TIME
TO
TREAT
THAT.

AND IT
TOOK ME
LONGER
THAN
EXPECTED.

I MADE A
LITTLE...
MISTAKE
ON MY
LAST
MISSION.

I'VE
BEEN
CAUGHT.

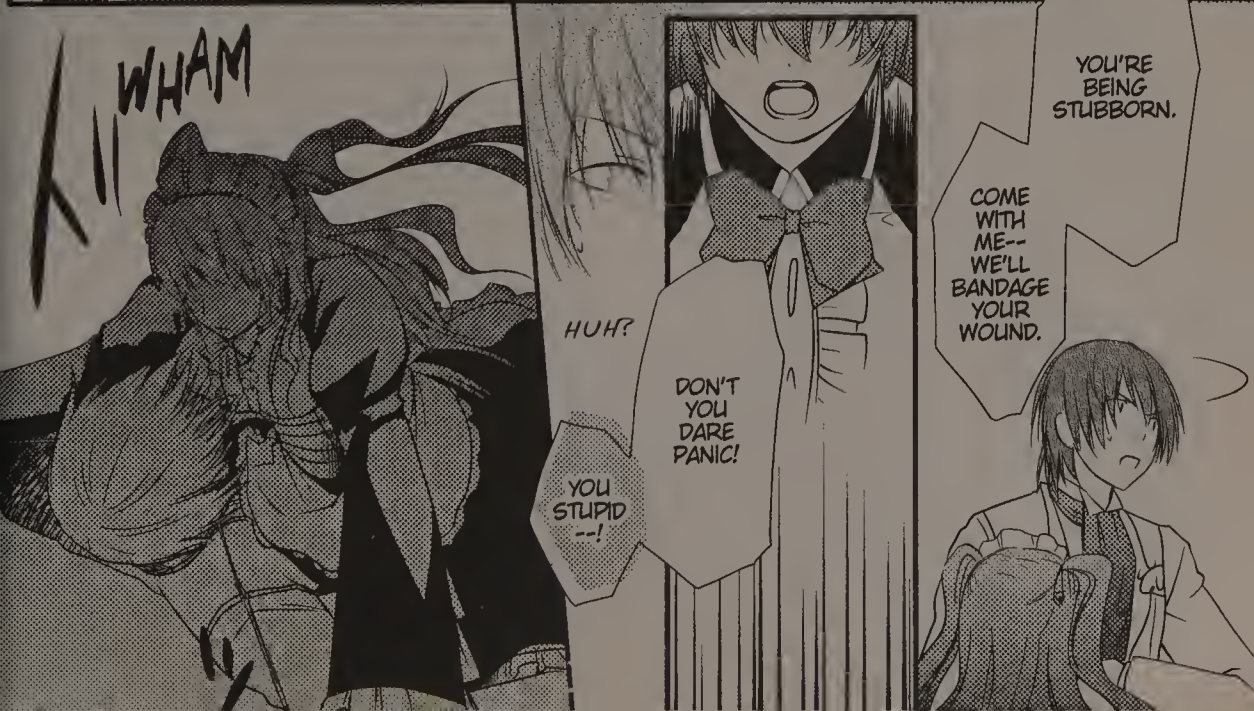
DAMMIT.

NO.

BEING
INJURED
IS A
PERFECTLY
GOOD
EXCUSE--



I DON'T
WANT YOU
WORRYING
ABOUT
ME.



YOU'RE
BEING
STUBBORN.

COME
WITH
ME--
WE'LL
BANDAGE
YOUR
WOUND.

DON'T
YOU
DARE
PANIC!

YOU
STUPID
--!

HUH?

WHAM

"JUST
FOR
NOW."
"JUST
FOR
TODAY."

AND
THEN,
LIKE A
CHILD,
I MAKE
UP
EXCUSES.

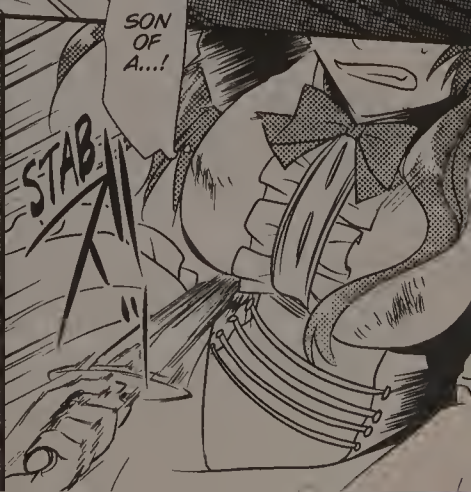
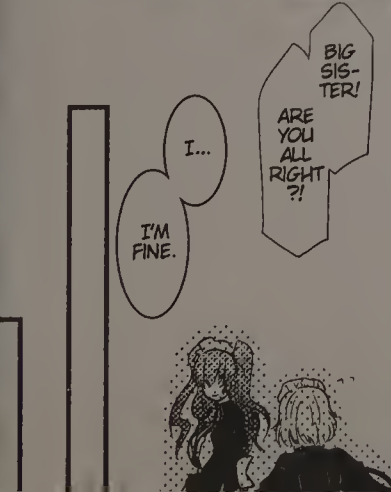
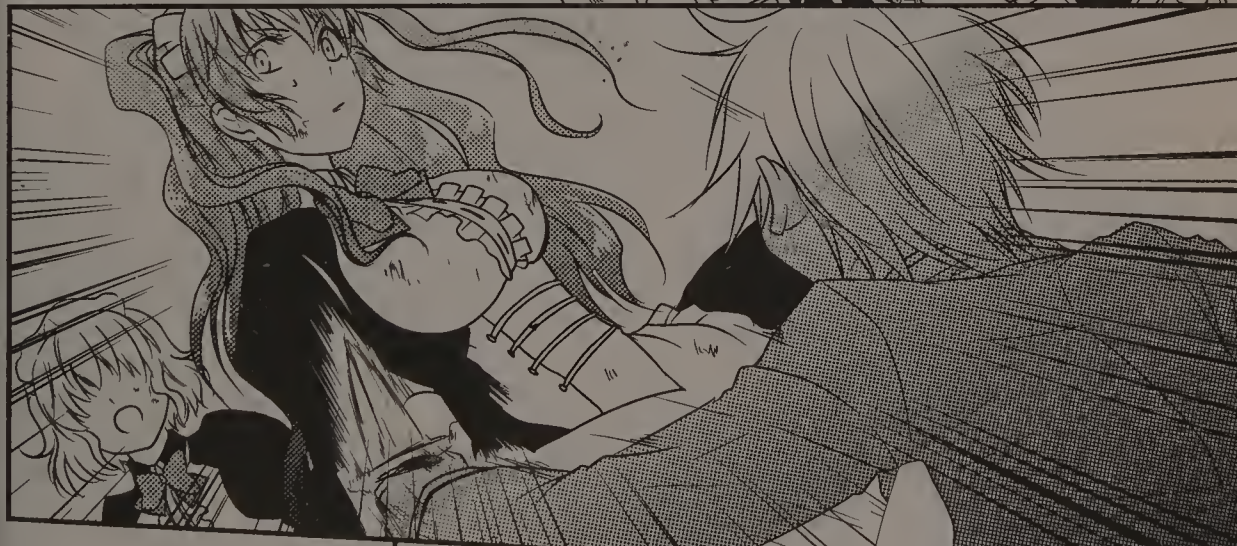
I LET
MY
GUARD
DOWN...

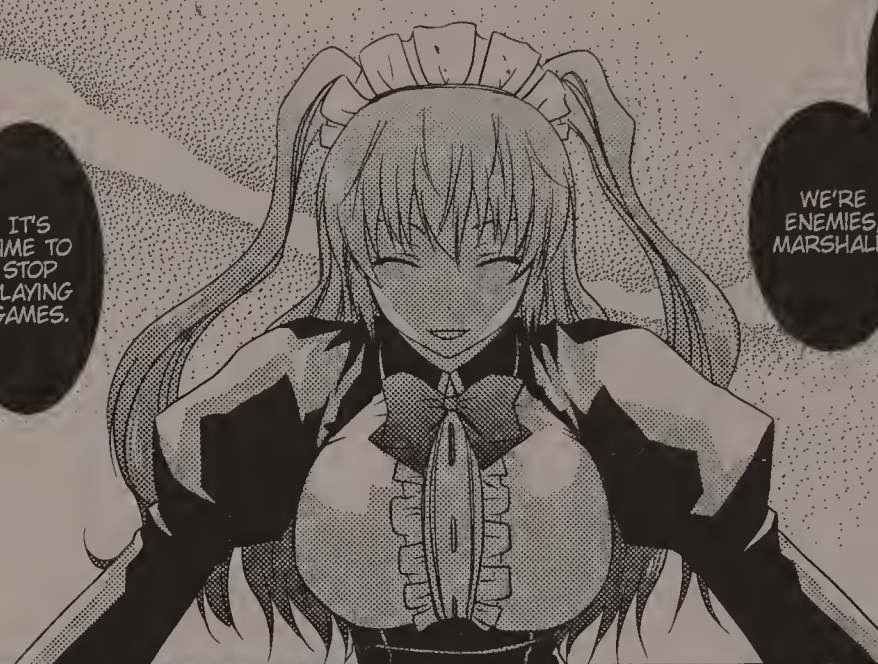
MAR-
SHALL.

...BECAUSE
I WAS
THINKING
ABOUT
YOU!

"THIS
ISN'T...
SERIOUS."

I HAVE
FUN
WHEN
WE'RE
TOGE-
THER.

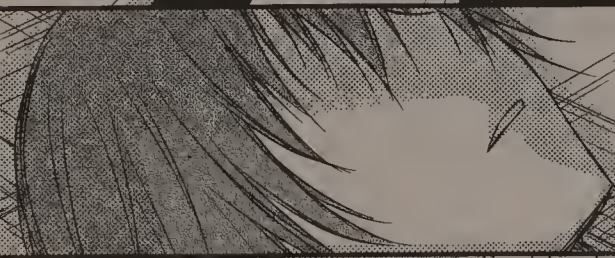




IT'S
TIME TO
STOP
PLAYING
GAMES.

WE'RE
ENEMIES,
MARSHALL.

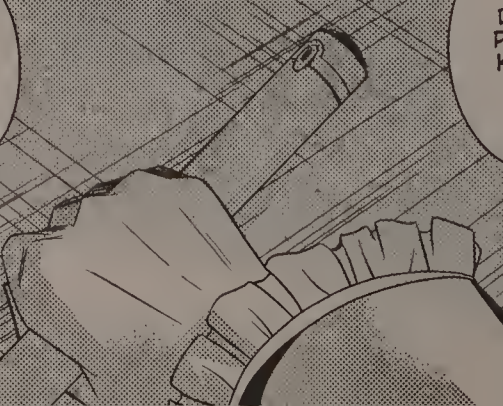
WE
SHOULD
STOP
SEEING
EACH
OTHER.



YOU'RE
REJECTING
ME
NOW?

HUH
?

WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
PROPOSING?



I
WOULDN'T
GO
THAT
FAR.

NO.

DO YOU
PLAN TO
KILL ME
HERE?

THERE
SHOULDN'T
BE...

ENOUGH
OF MY
HEART
LEFT OVER
FOR
ANYONE
ELSE.

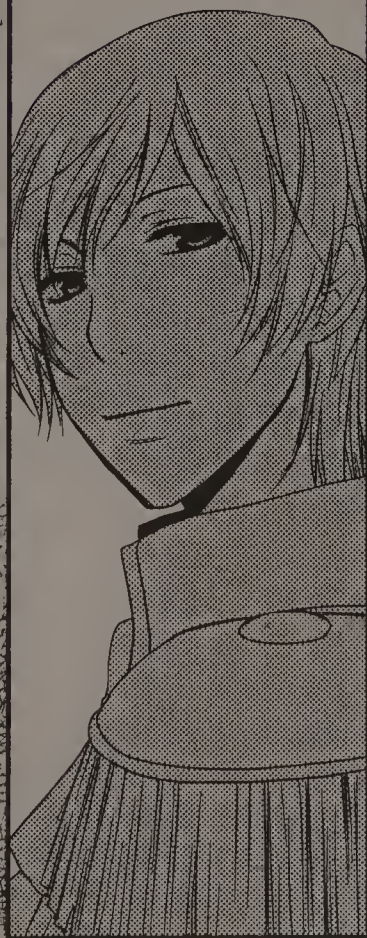
NONE
FOR
YOU...

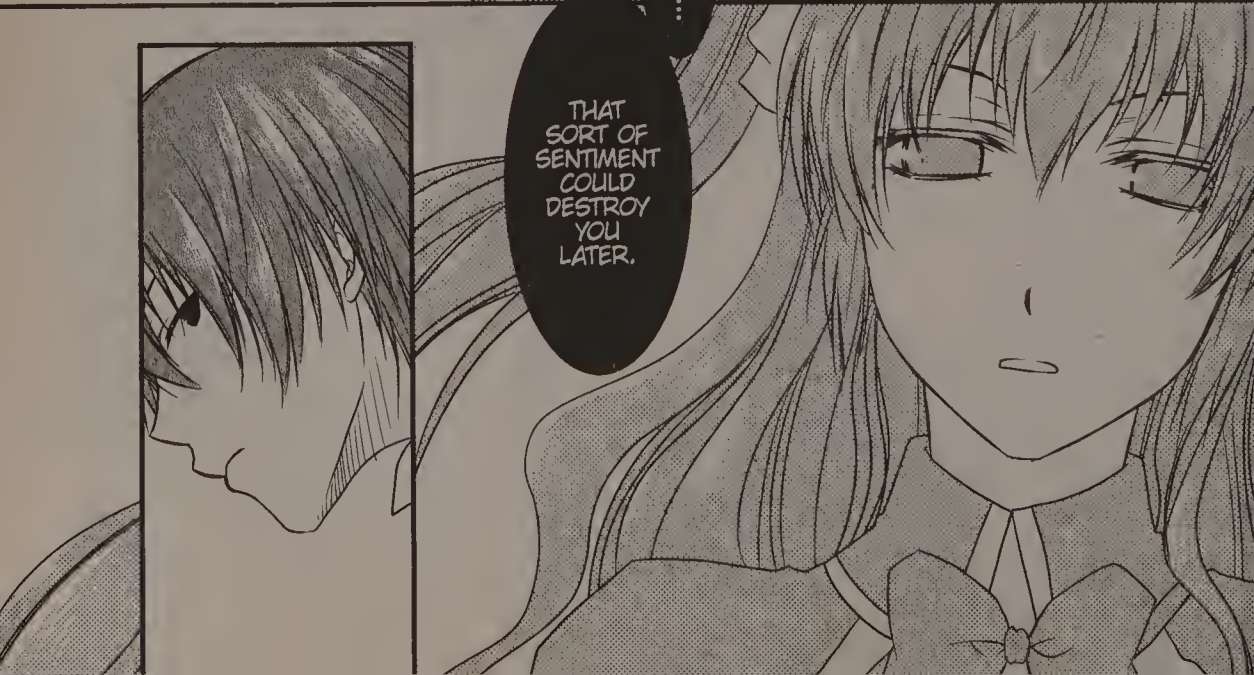
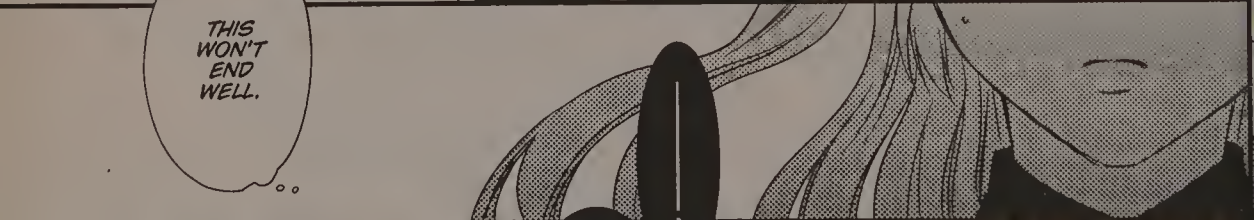
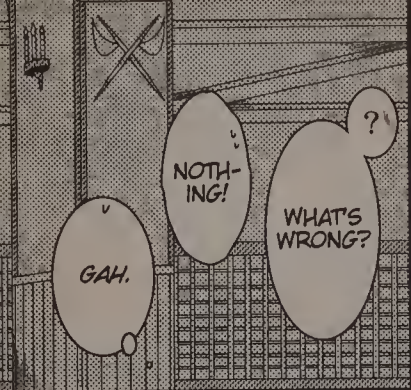
AND
NONE
FOR
ME.

AND I
KEEP
THIS
RELATION-
SHIP
GOING.

THERE'S
ONLY ONE
PERSON
I'M
SWORN TO
PROTECT.

GIVING
PRINCE
EDYARD
MY HEART
SHOULD
BE
ENOUGH.







WHY AM I BLUSHING?!

LIGH.

DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID?

I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WHILE YOU'RE INJURED!



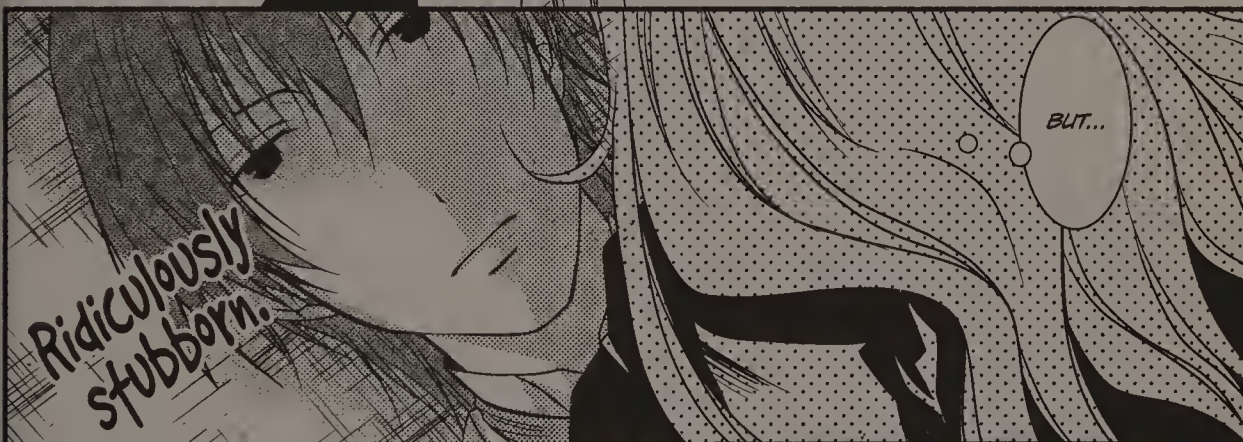
I KNOW, BUT...

IT'S NOT... MUCH OF A WOUND.

AND YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE MAGES, DON'T YOU?

THEN TREAT YOUR WOUND FIRST!

WE CAN FIX IT FASTER WITH MAGIC.

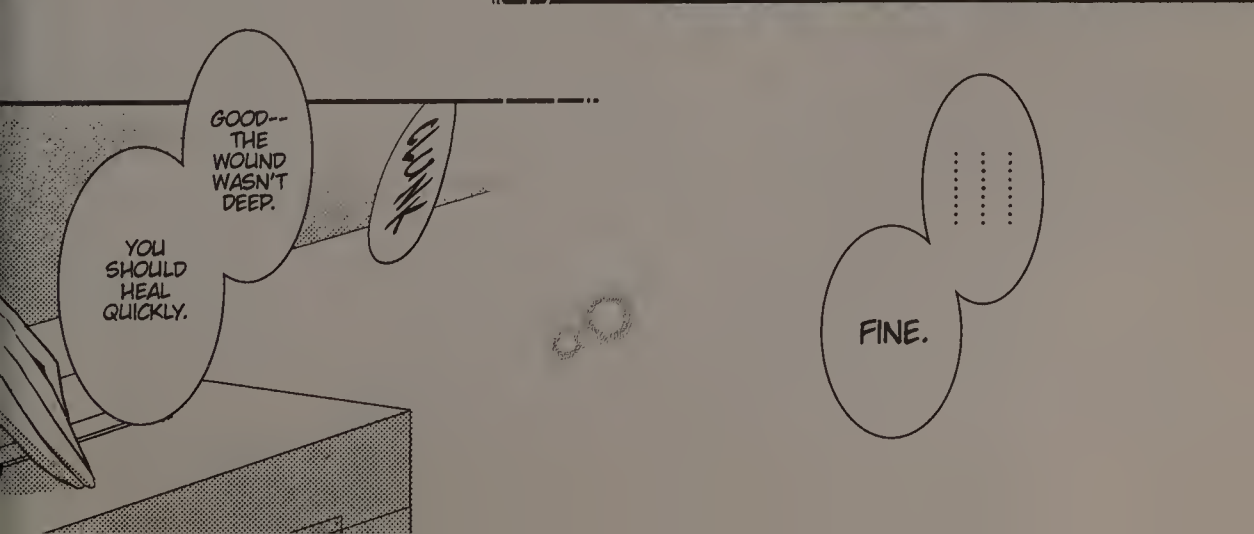


Ridiculously stubborn.

BUT...



...



GOOD-- THE WOUND WASN'T DEEP.

YOU SHOULD HEAL QUICKLY.

ouch

FINE.



SLIDE

SQUEEZE

I THINK SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH ME, TOO.

IF YOU LEAVE PRINCE JUSTIN, I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.

SORRY. I CAN'T DO THAT.

EVEN IF YOU ASK.



GOOD.

HE REJECTED THAT IMMEDIATELY...

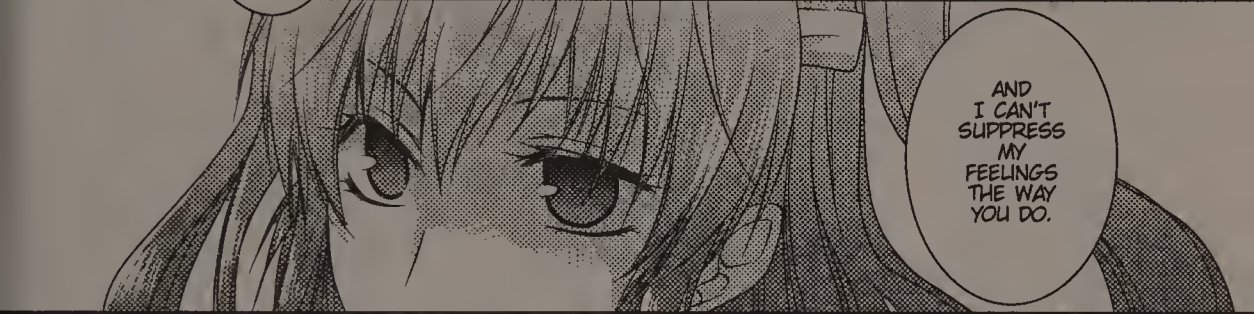
AS HE SHOULD.



I DON'T
THINK MY
HEART
IS AS
STRONG
AS
YOURS.

TAP

YOU
MAY BE
RIGHT.

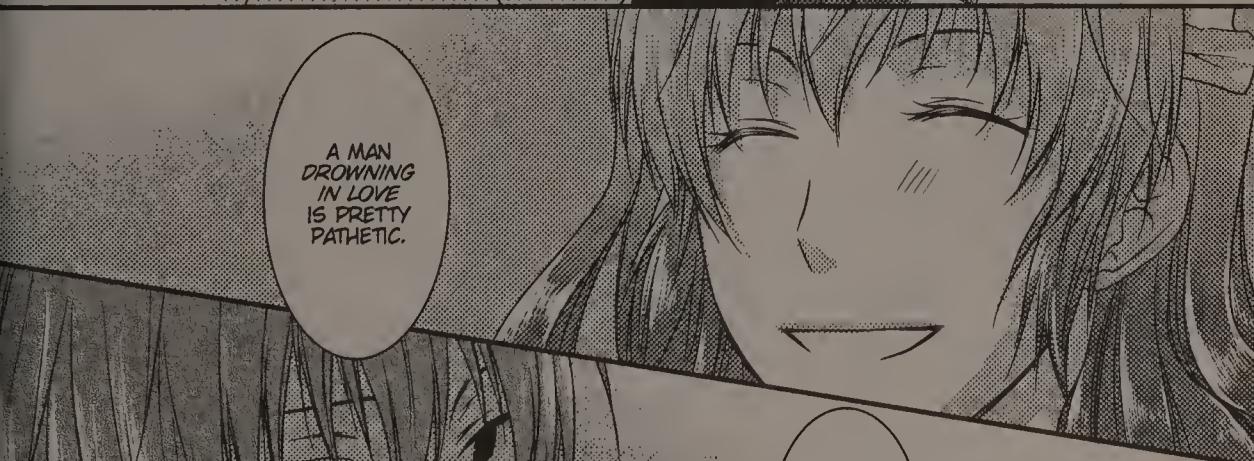


AND
I CAN'T
SUPPRESS
MY
FEELINGS
THE WAY
YOU DO.



I'M
GLAD IT
WASN'T
MUCH
OF AN
INJURY.

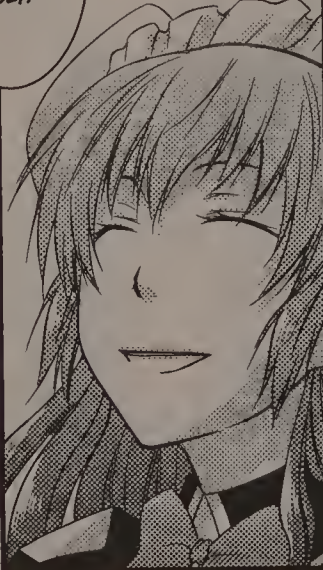
BUT!



A MAN
DROWNING
IN LOVE
IS PRETTY
PATHETIC.



I
CAN'T
ARGUE
THAT.



WE
WOMEN
CAN BE
SLY.



BUT I
CAN DO
THIS.

I CAN
STILL
HOLD
MYSELF
BACK.

HOW
COULD
YOU SAY
THAT
AFTER A
KISS?

NOW
THAT YOU
UNDERSTAND,
YOU
SHOULD
GIVE
ME UP.

KA-
CHAK

I
KNOW.

I DON'T
GIVE UP
EASILY,
SHEILA.

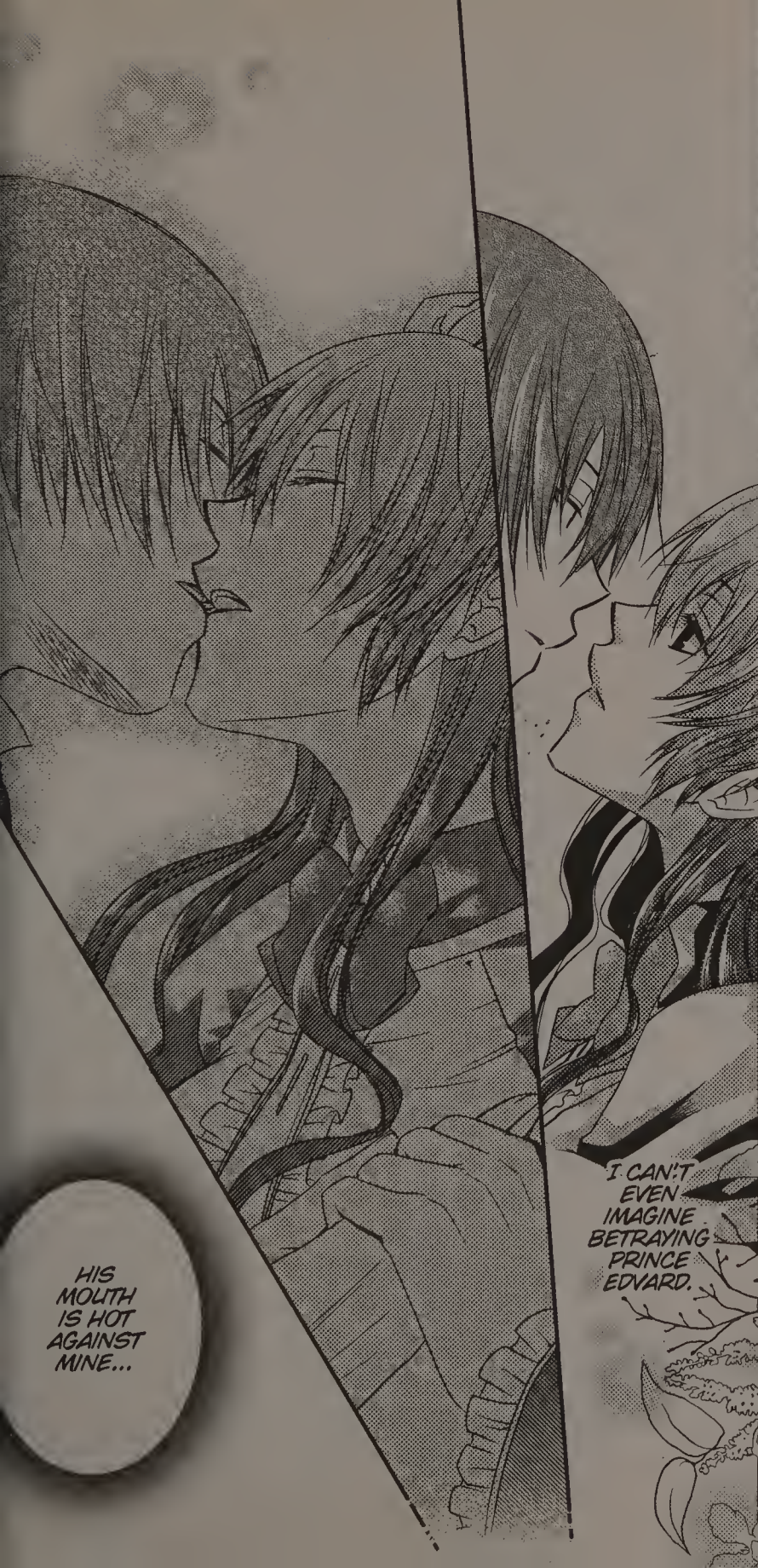


I CAN
SMILE
AT THIS
PATHETIC
MAN.

MY
HEART'S
STRONGER
THAN
YOURS.

BUT
UNFOR-
TUNATELY
FOR YOU...





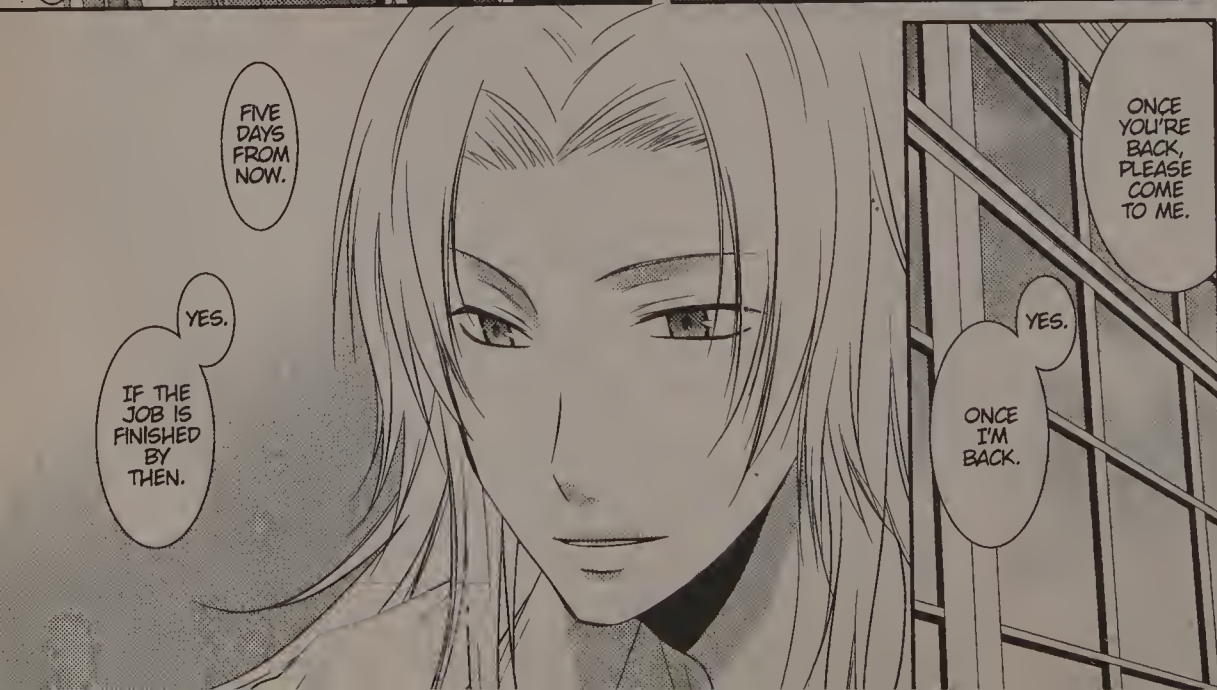
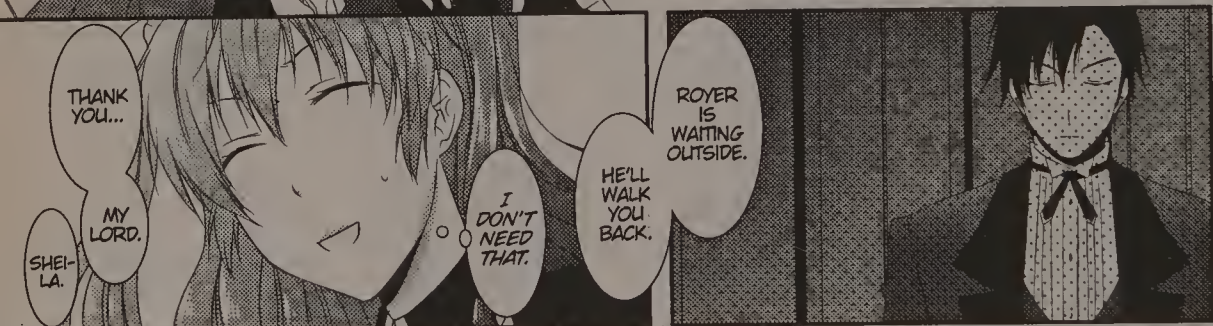
AND I'LL
NEVER
LEAVE
PRINCE
EDVARD.

THIS
IS WHO
WE
ARE.

HIS
MOUTH
IS HOT
AGAINST
MINE...

I CAN'T
EVEN
IMAGINE
BETRAYING
PRINCE
EDVARD.







PLEASE
DON'T
PUSH
YOURSELF
TOO
HARD.

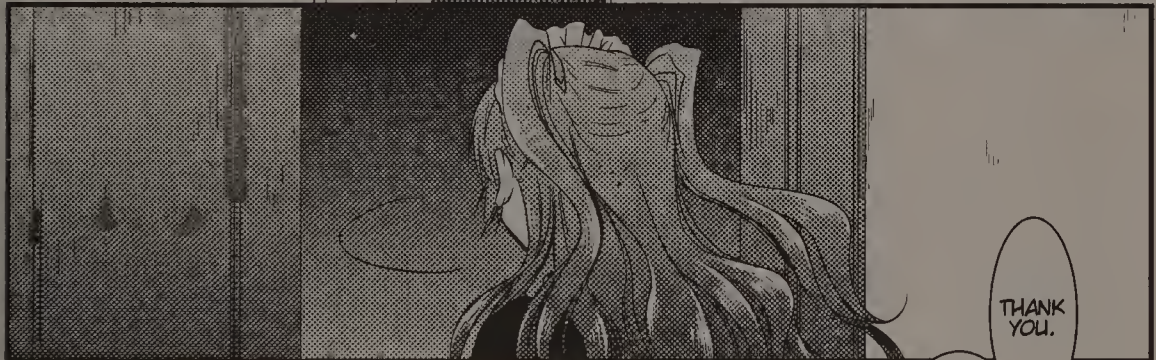


SHEILA
...

I
HAVE
TO
GO.

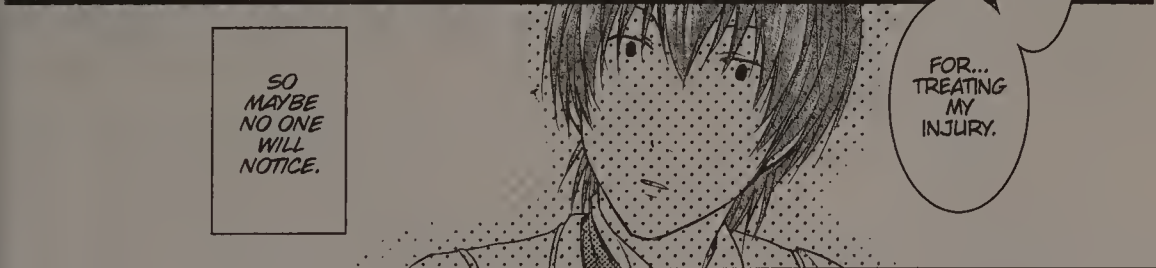
THERE'S
WORK
TO BE
DONE.

.....



THANK
YOU.

SO
MAYBE
NO ONE
WILL
NOTICE.



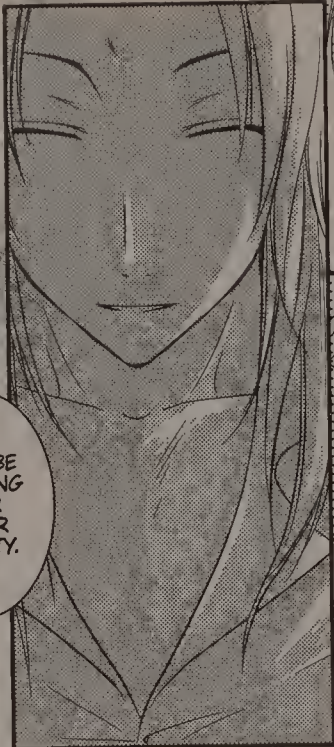
FOR...
TREATING
MY
INJURY.

MY
PLEA-
SURE.

...AND
THE
HEATED
PASSION
THAT
THREAT-
ENS TO
DROWN
ME.

AS I
HIDE THAT
SMALL,
LINGERING
FEELING...

• E N D •



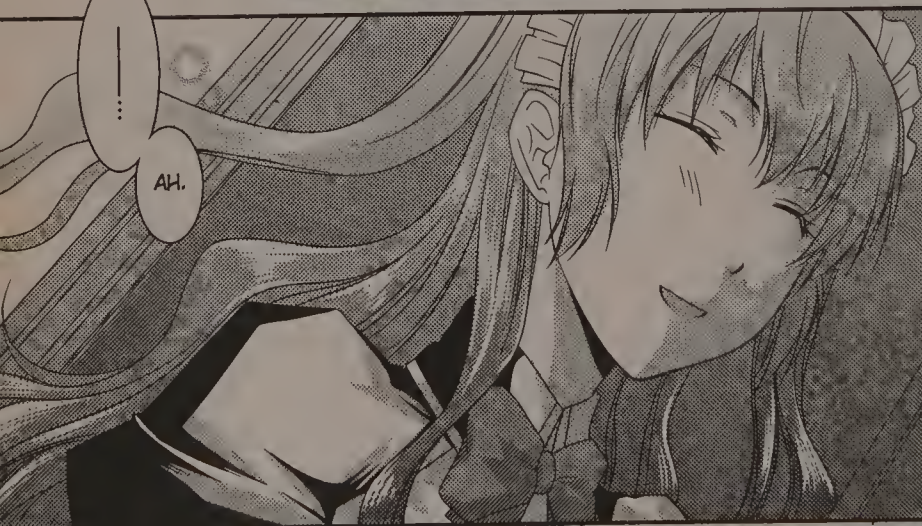
I'LL BE
PRAYING
FOR
YOUR
SAFETY.



SHEILA.



GOOD-
BYE.



...

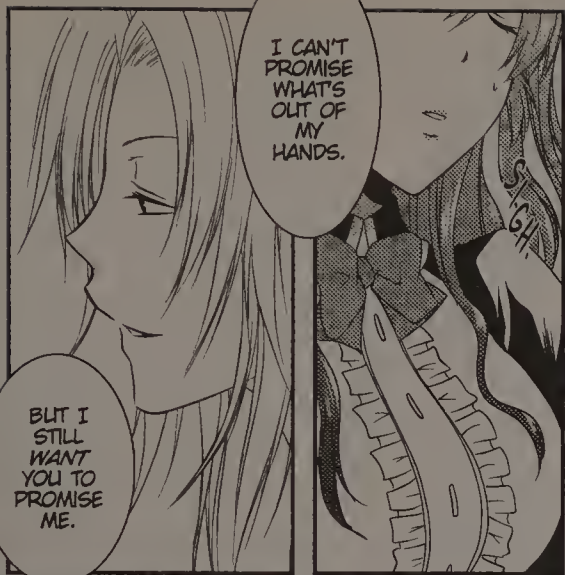
AH.

THAT'S
ALL I
CAN SAY
AS YOU
LEAVE
TO RISK
YOUR
LIFE.

I
REALIZE
ONCE
AGAIN...

ALL I
CAN
DO IS
WAIT.

...THAT
I
CAN'T
STOP
YOU.



I CAN'T
PROMISE
WHAT'S
OUT OF
MY
HANDS.

BUT I
STILL
WANT
YOU TO
PROMISE
ME.



PLEASE,
SHEILA.



FIVE
DAYS IS
MY
GUESS.

FIVE
DAYS!
I'LL BE
WAITING.

PROM-
ISE
ME.

NO!



I
WISH I
COULD,
LORD
BRYON.



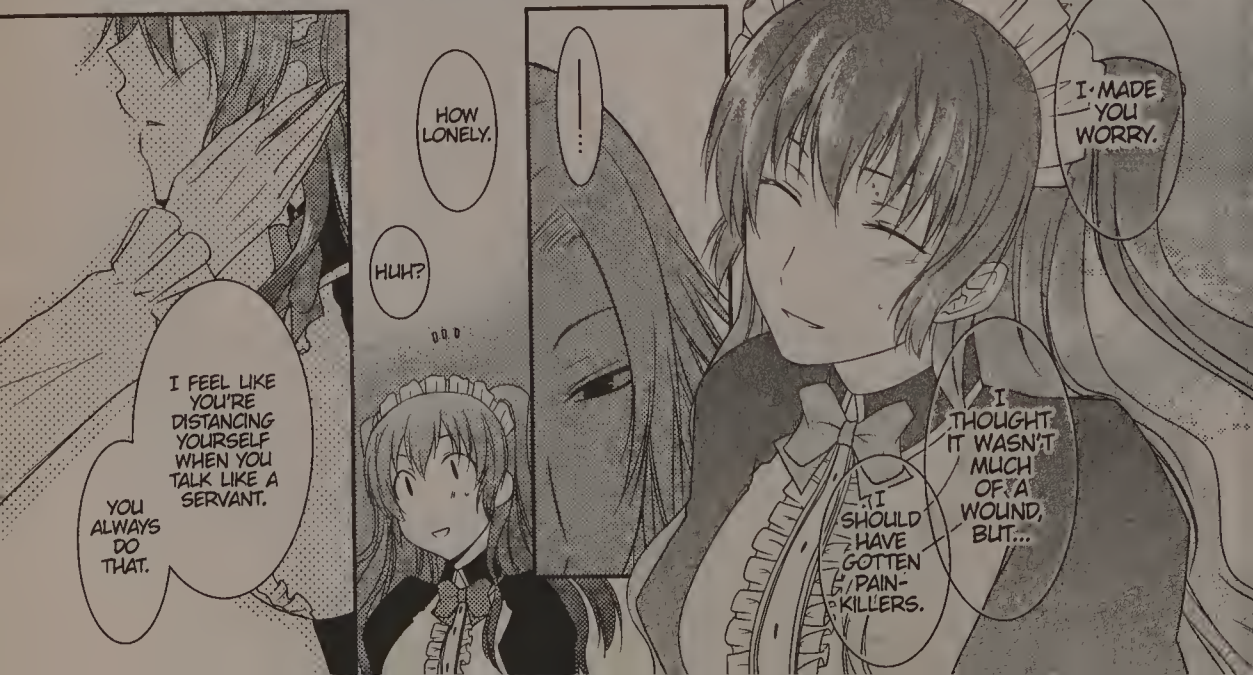
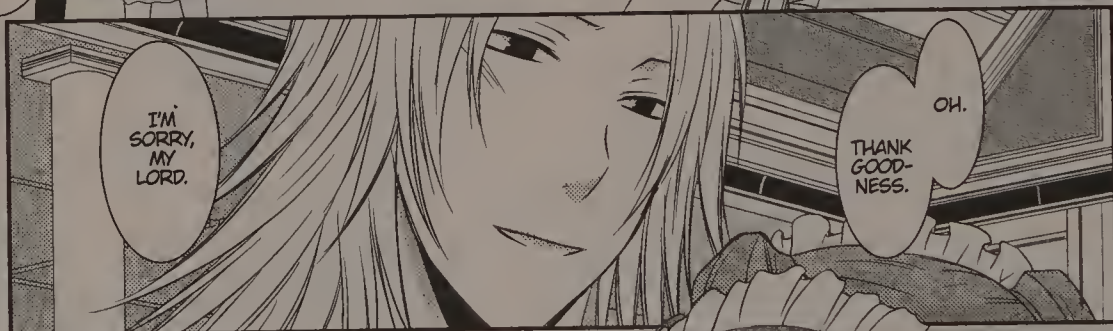
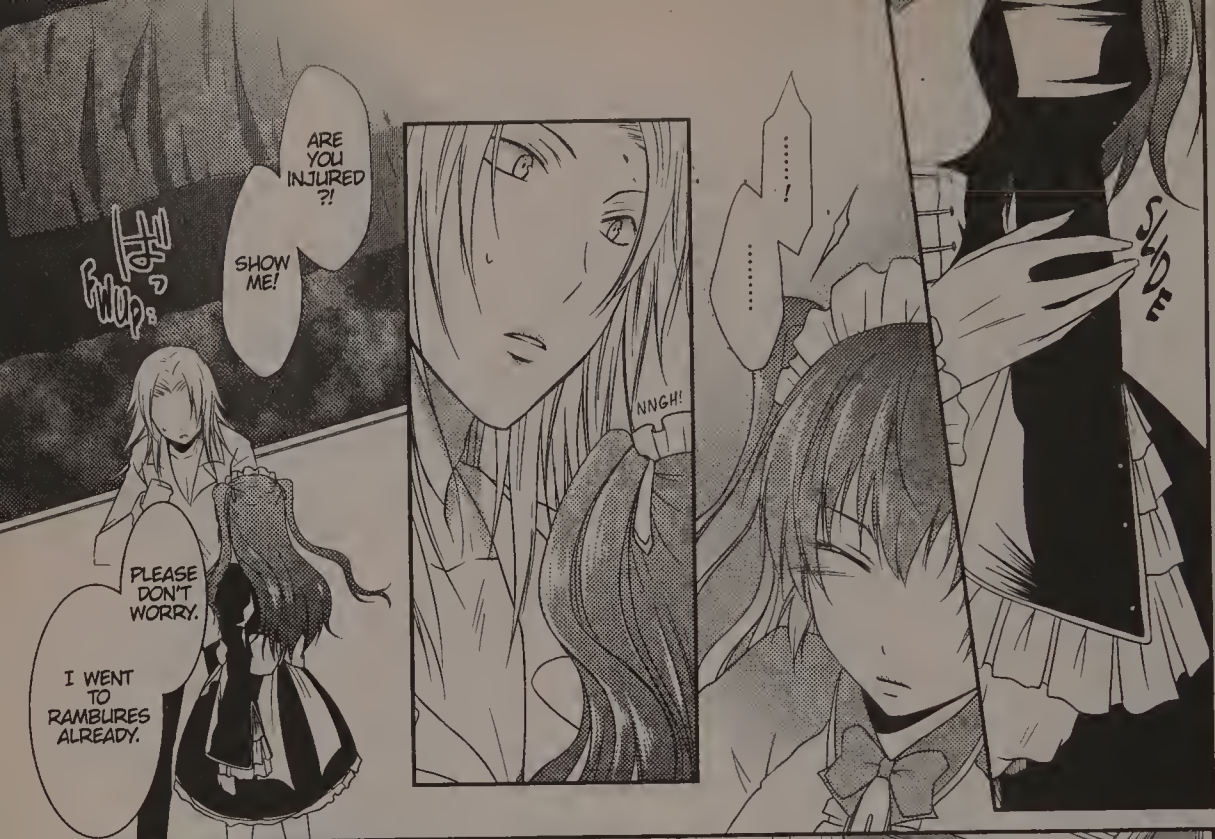
.....
YOU'RE
SO
STUB-
BORN.

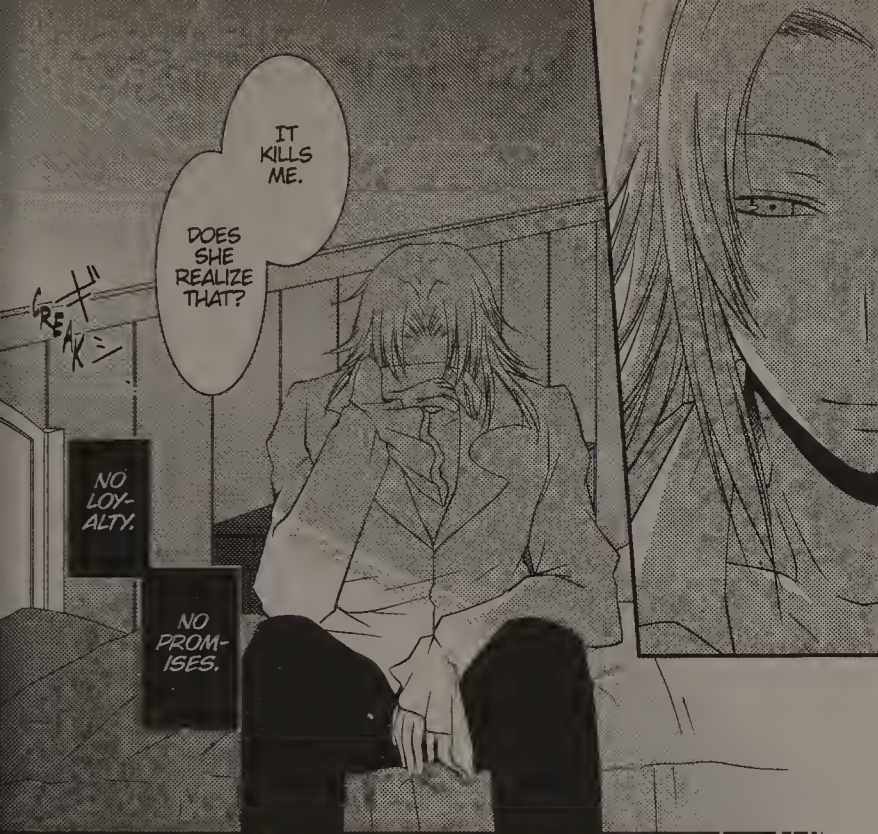
HEH.



IF I
DON'T
RETURN
IN FIVE
DAYS...

THAT
MEANS
I WAS
UNABLE
TO
FULFILL
PRINCE
EDWARD'S
ORDERS.





IT
KILLS
ME.

DOES
SHE
REALIZE
THAT?

NO
LOY-
ALTY.

NO
PROM-
ISES.

YOU
MAY
RETURN.

OR
I MAY
NEVER
SEE
YOUR
SMILE
AGAIN.

NO
GUAR-
ANTEE
FOR
THE
FUTURE.

KA-
CHUNK



YOU'RE
BACK!

I'M
GLAD
YOU'RE
SAFE.

I'M
SORRY I
WORRIED
YOU.



YOU CAN'T,
LORD
BRYON.

YOU'RE
THE NEXT
IN LINE
FOR THE
CAPELLA
FAMILY.

YOU
CAN'T
BE
MOVED
BY A
LOWLY
MAID.

SLIDE

THE
THINGS
I FEEL
WHEN
I WAIT
FOR
YOU...



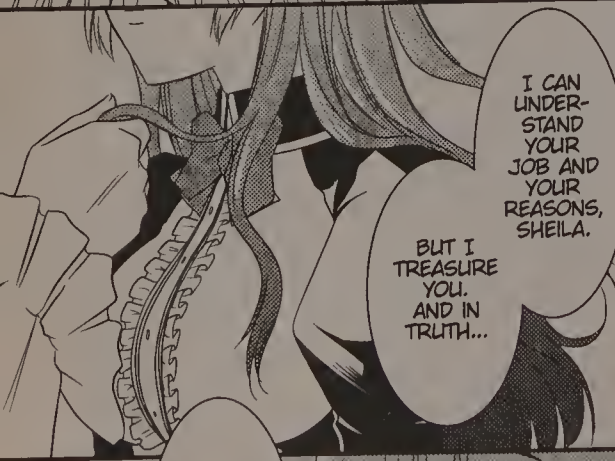
I KNOW
YOU'RE
STRONG.

BUT YOUR
JOB IS
DANGER-
OUS AND
UNPRE-
DICTABLE.



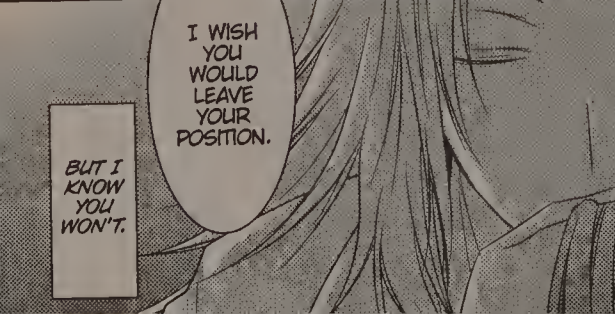
PLEASE
STOP
SAYING
THAT.

BUT
IT'S
TRUE.



I CAN
UNDER-
STAND
YOUR
JOB AND
YOUR
REASONS,
SHEILA.

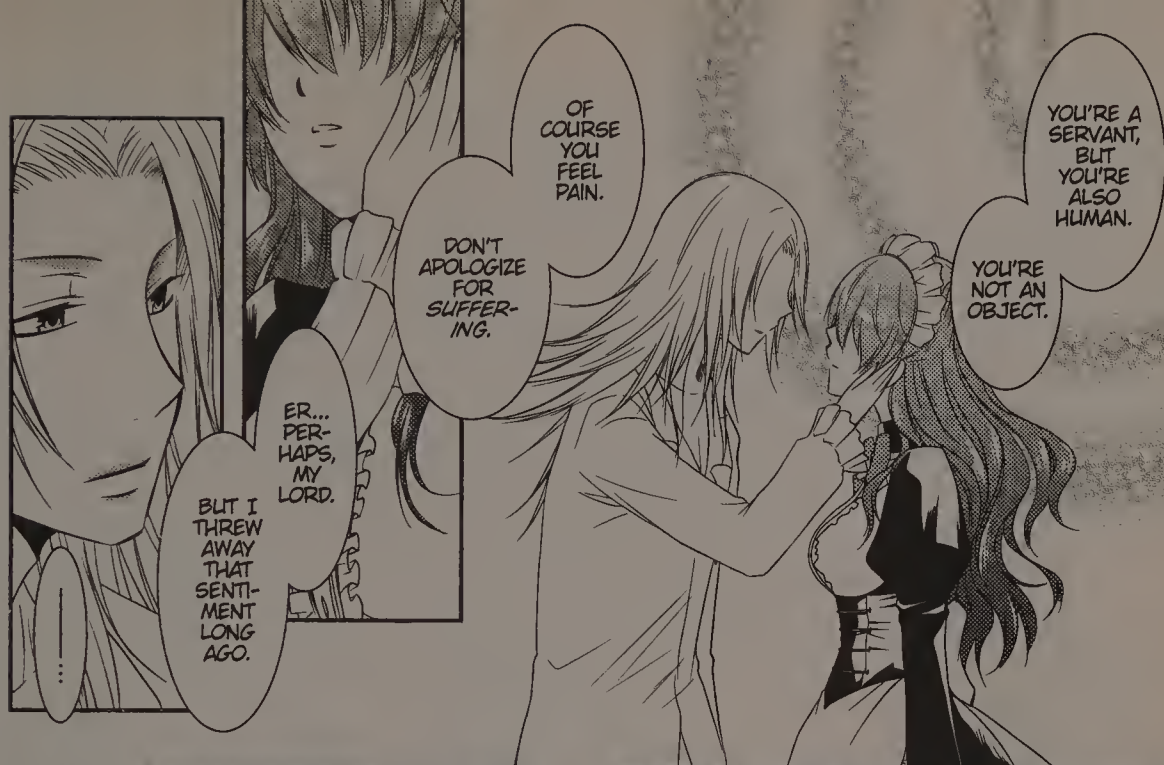
BUT I
TREASURE
YOU.
AND IN
TRUTH...

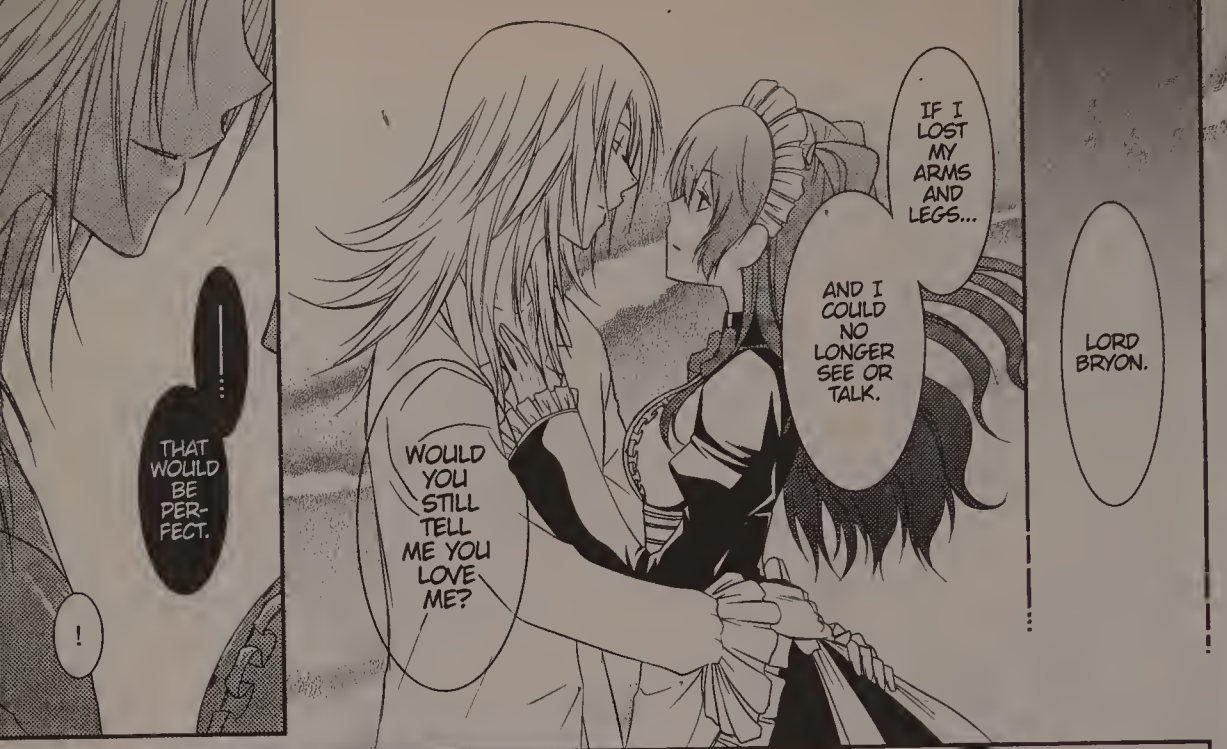


I WISH
YOU
WOULD
LEAVE
YOUR
POSITION.

BUT I
KNOW
YOU
WON'T.







! ...
THAT WOULD BE PERFECT.

WOULD YOU STILL TELL ME YOU LOVE ME?

AND I COULD NO LONGER SEE OR TALK.

IF I LOST MY ARMS AND LEGS...

LORD BRYON.



I COULD TRULY MAKE YOU MINE.

BECAUSE THEN YOU'D BE REMOVED FROM GUARDING PRINCE EDVARD.



DO AS YOU WILL.

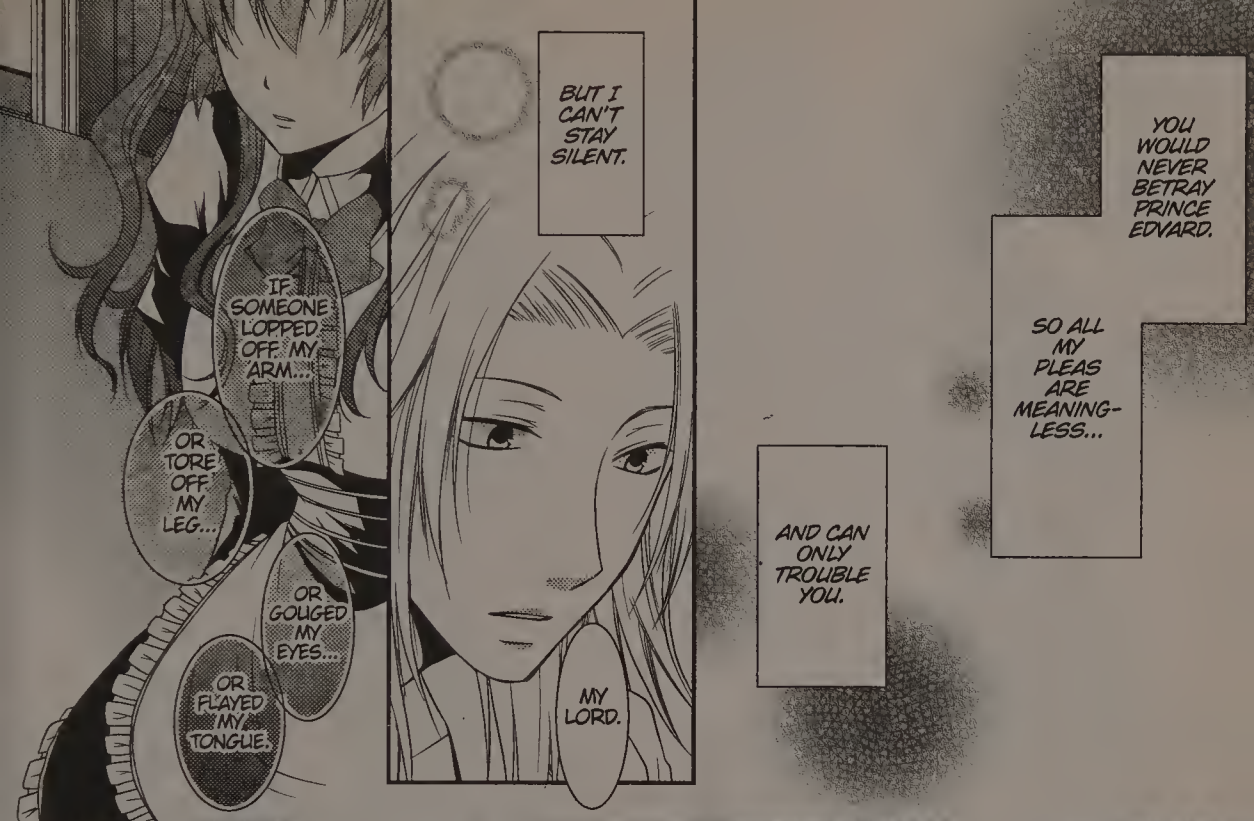
WELL?

YOU WOULD BE MINE ALONE.

I COULD LOCK YOU IN THIS ROOM.

WHY DON'T WE DO THAT?

IF I TAKE YOUR FREEDOM AND CRIPPLE YOUR BODY...



BUT I
CAN'T
STAY
SILENT.

IF
SOMEONE
LOPPED
OFF MY
ARM...

OR
TORE
OFF
MY
LEG...

OR
GOUGED
MY
EYES...

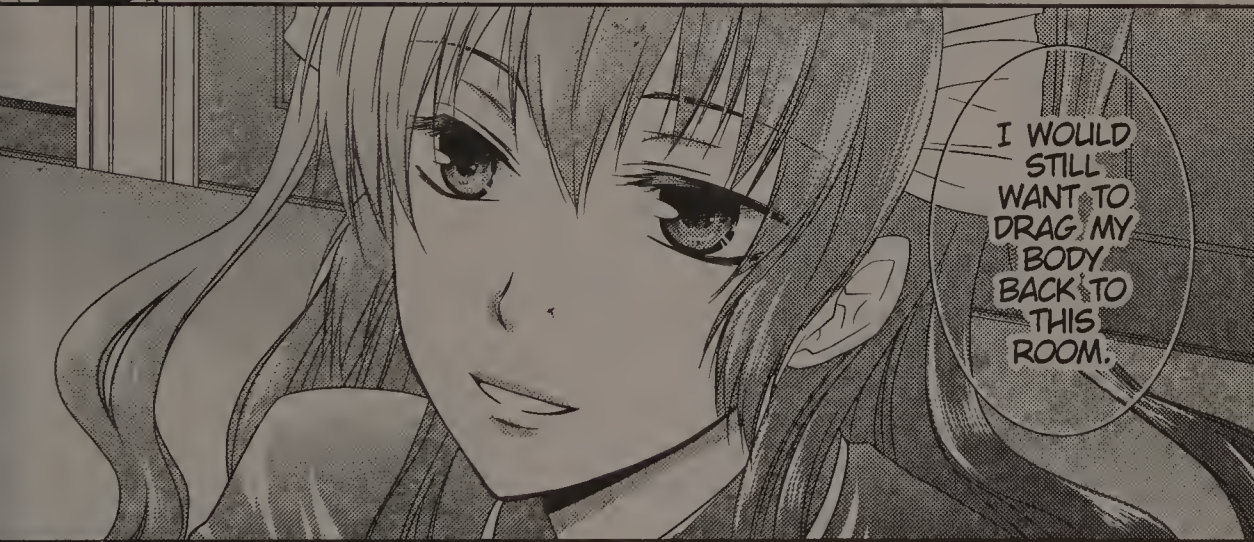
OR
PLAYED
MY
TONGUE.

MY
LORD.

AND CAN
ONLY
TROUBLE
YOU.

SO ALL
MY
PLEAS
ARE
MEANING-
LESS...

YOU
WOULD
NEVER
BETRAY
PRINCE
EDVARD.



I WOULD
STILL
WANT TO
DRAG MY
BODY
BACK TO
THIS
ROOM.



I
THOUGHT
YOU'D
SAY
THAT.

BUT I
CAN'T
PROMISE.



I WORRY ABOUT YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.



SHEILA.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET.

I'VE TOLD YOU THAT MANY TIMES, MY LORD.

WAIT. YOU DON'T WANT MY OTHER GIFTS?

I WON'T HEAR IT.



IT'S THE FINEST GIFT YOU COULD GIVE ME.

AND I'M HAPPY TO KNOW A SIDE THAT NO ONE ELSE SEES.



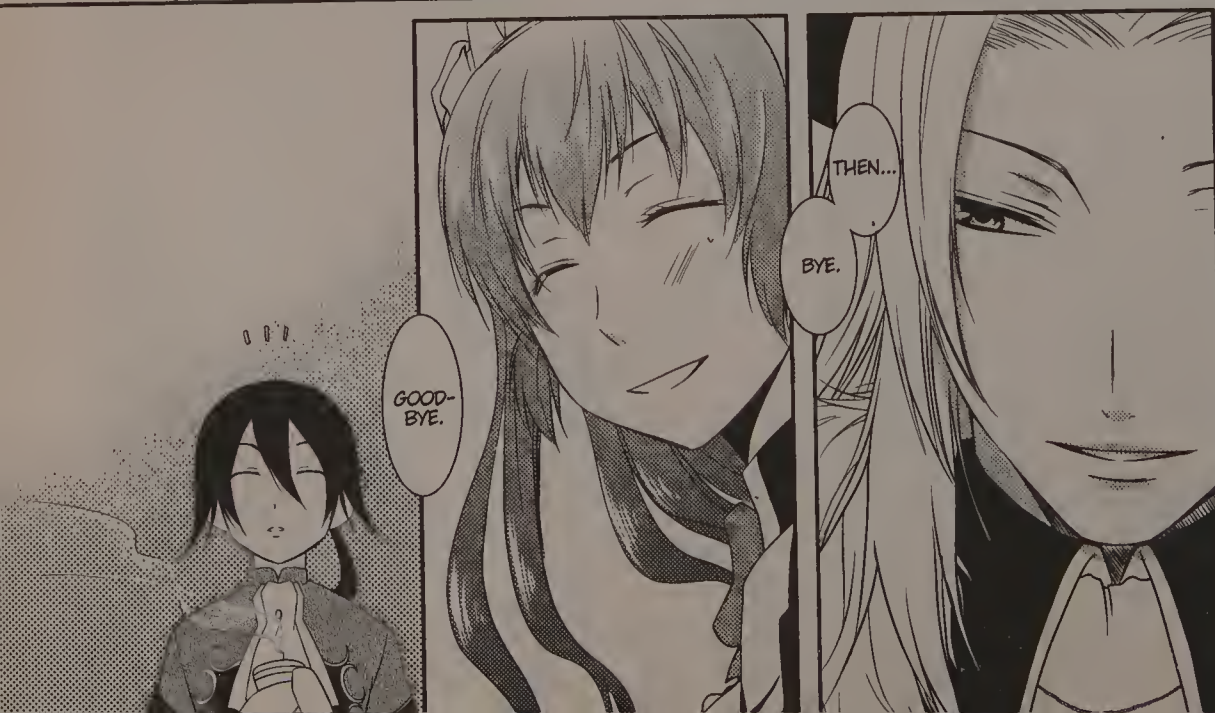
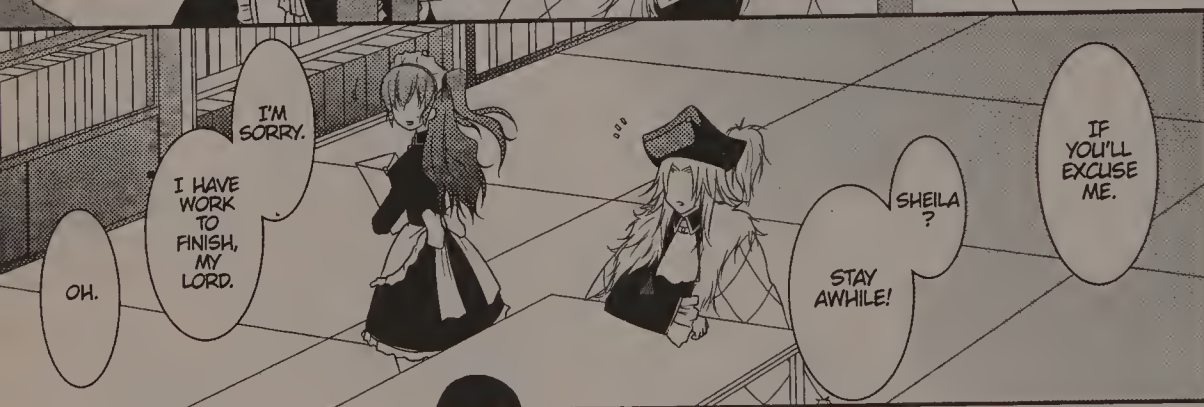
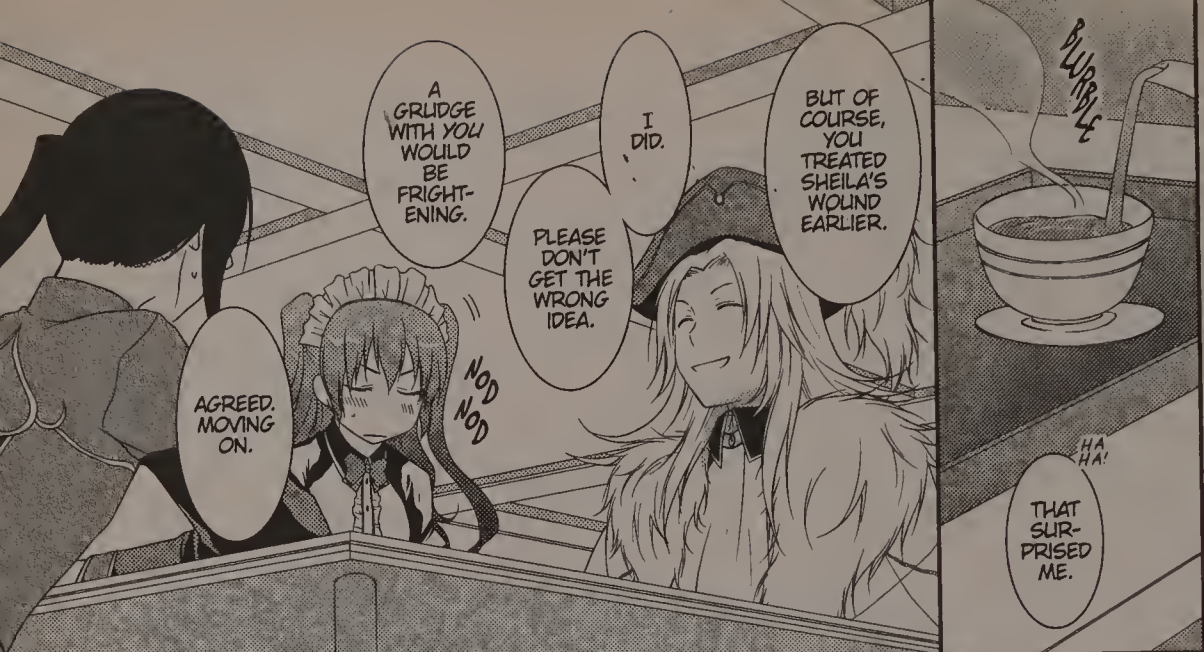
THIS ISN'T AN ORDER... IT'S A REQUEST.

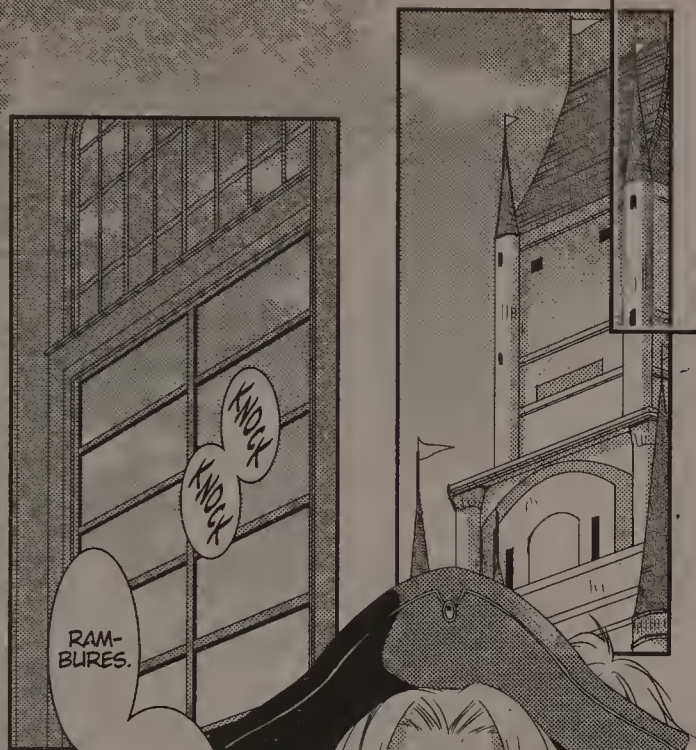
SO PLEASE TAKE CARE.



I'LL ACT ACCORDINGLY, MY LORD.







I
SUPPOSE
THAT'S
THE BEST
I CAN
EXPECT
RIGHT
NOW.

RAM-
BURES.

I
FOUND
THE
BOOK
YOU
WERE
LOOKING
FO--

KA-
CHAK

Wh...



WHAT
ARE
YOU
TWO
DOING?!

MEDICINE.

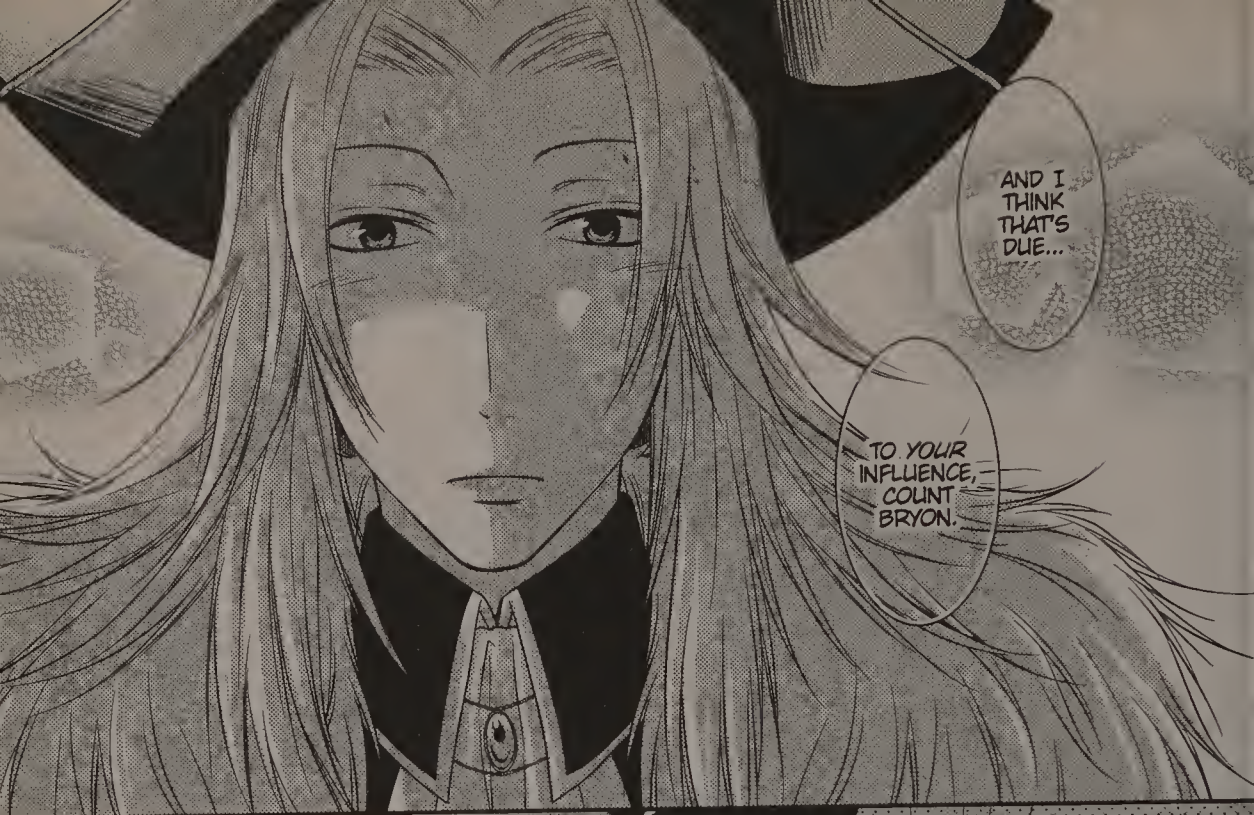
I
THINK
IT'S
RATHER
OBVIOUS.



OH.

THANK
YOU,
COUNT.

...



AND I
THINK
THAT'S
DUE...

TO YOUR
INFLUENCE,
COUNT
BRYON.

HEH.



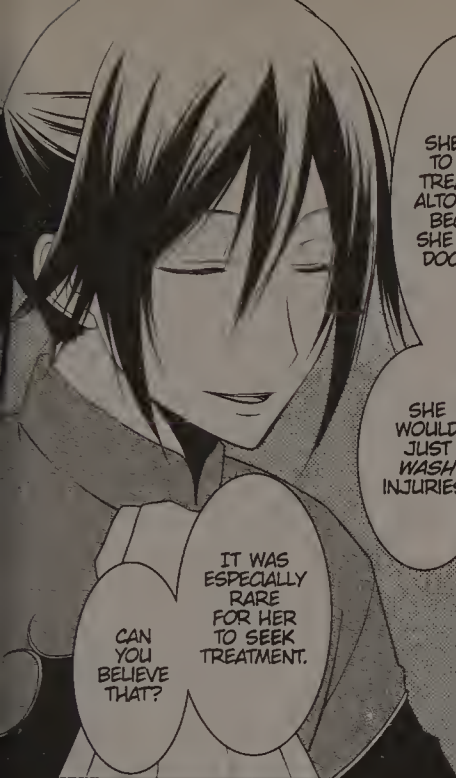
LORD
BRYON?

IT'S A
RELATION-
SHIP
WITH NO
GUARAN-
TEES,
BUT...

AND I'M
STILL
WORRIED
ABOUT
HER.

SHE
CONTINUES
HER
WORK,
AS
USUAL.

THAT
WOULD
BE
NICE.



SHE USED TO AVOID TREATMENT ALTOGETHER BECAUSE SHE "HATED DOCTORS."

SHE WOULD JUST WASH INJURIES.

IT WAS ESPECIALLY RARE FOR HER TO SEEK TREATMENT.

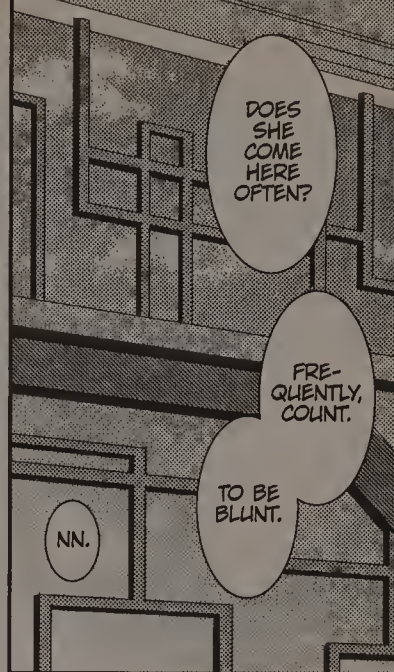
CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?



BUT SHE HAS CHANGED.

WELL ...

IT MAKES SENSE.



DOES SHE COME HERE OFTEN?

FRE-QUENTLY, COUNT.

TO BE BLUNT.

NN.



YOU KNOW HER ENTIRE BODY, DO YOU?

IT'S ODD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.

IF SHE TREATED THEM PROPERLY ...

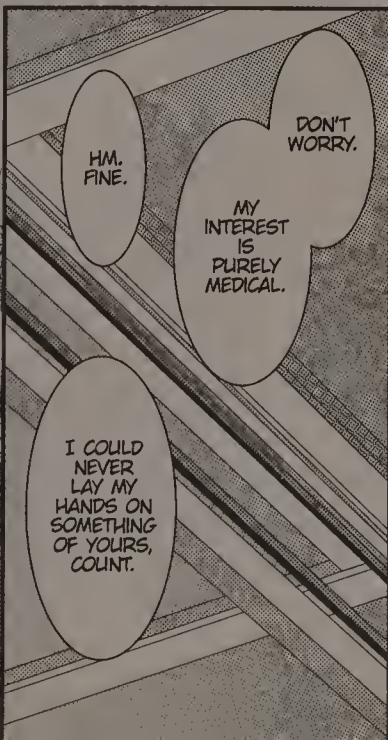
THAT'S WHY HER BODY IS COVERED IN SCARS.



BUT SOMEONE WHO CARED SO LITTLE ABOUT HERSELF...

STARTED COMING FOR REGULAR TREATMENT.

WHAT A WONDERFUL CHANGE.



HM. FINE.

DON'T WORRY.

MY INTEREST IS PURELY MEDICAL.

I COULD NEVER LAY MY HANDS ON SOMETHING OF YOURS, COUNT.

THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH!

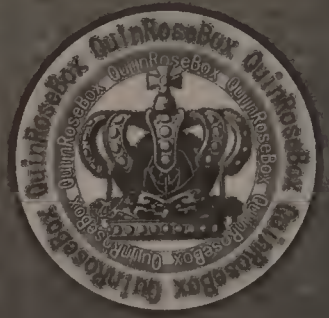
I CAN
PRETTY
MUCH
IMAGINE
THEIR
FUTURE
AS A
COUPLE.

KEH.

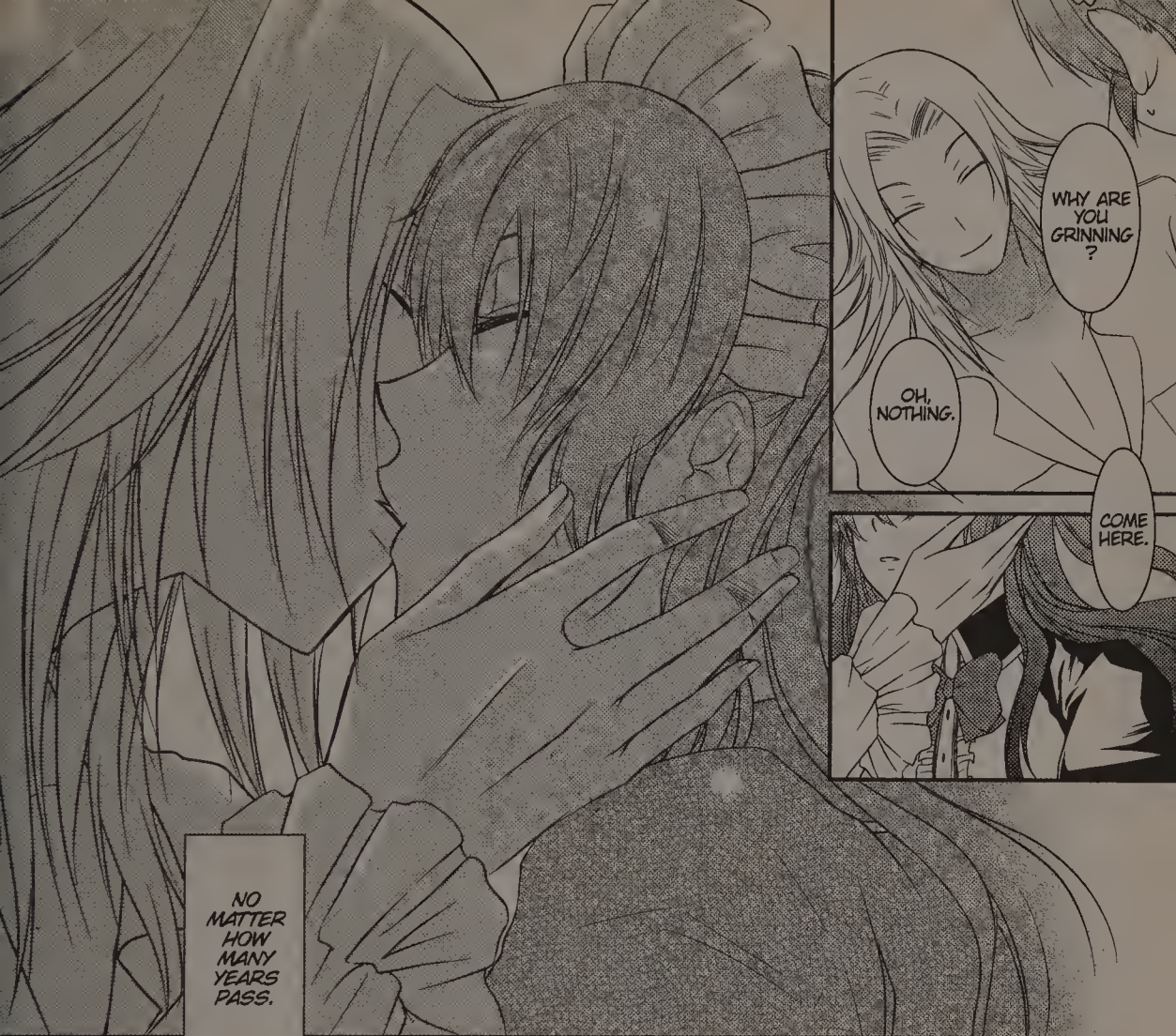
KUH.



SO
YOU'RE
MAKING
DIFFERENT
SOUNDS
TO KEEP
THINGS
FRESH?



QuintroseBox



NO
MATTER
HOW
MANY
YEARS
PASS.

WHY ARE
YOU
GRINNING
?

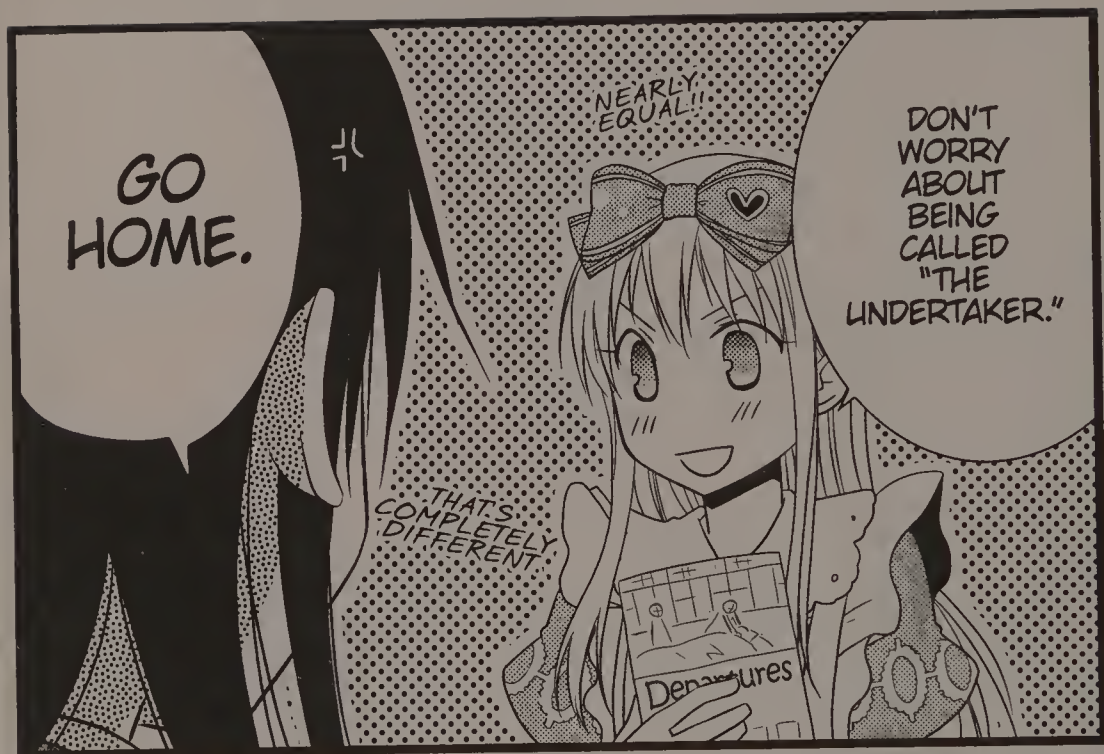
OH,
NOTHING.

COME
HERE.

I LOVE
YOU,
SHEILA.

I BELIEVE
THAT
NOTHING
SHORT OF
DEATH
WILL
PULL US
APART.

• E N D •



Deep Appreciation!

I've been under your care a lot.
QuinRose

Thank you for your help!
Assistant

Thank you for everything.
Friends and Acquaintances

And most importantly,
thank you to everyone
who picked up this book!
The Readers

Thank you very much!

THE CLOCKMAKER'S STORY: POST-MORTEM

IN AN
EMPTY
TOWER.

YOU
WOULDN'T
STAY...

EVEN
IF
YOU
KILL
ME...

GIVE
IT
UP.

I'M
FASTER
THAN
YOU,
CLOCK-
MAKER.

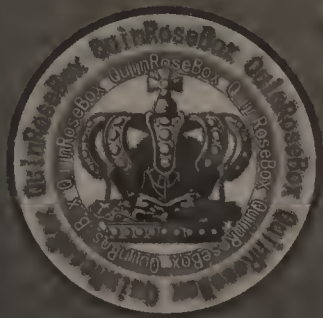
WHY
ARE YOU
TALKING
LIKE A
SUPER-
VILLAIN?

YOU'LL
NEVER
STOP THE
NEXT
CLOCK-
MAKER!

**SPECIAL
PREVIEW**

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KaNoKoN



COMING SOON

AUGUST 2013

Crimson Empire Vol. 2

SEPTEMBER 2013

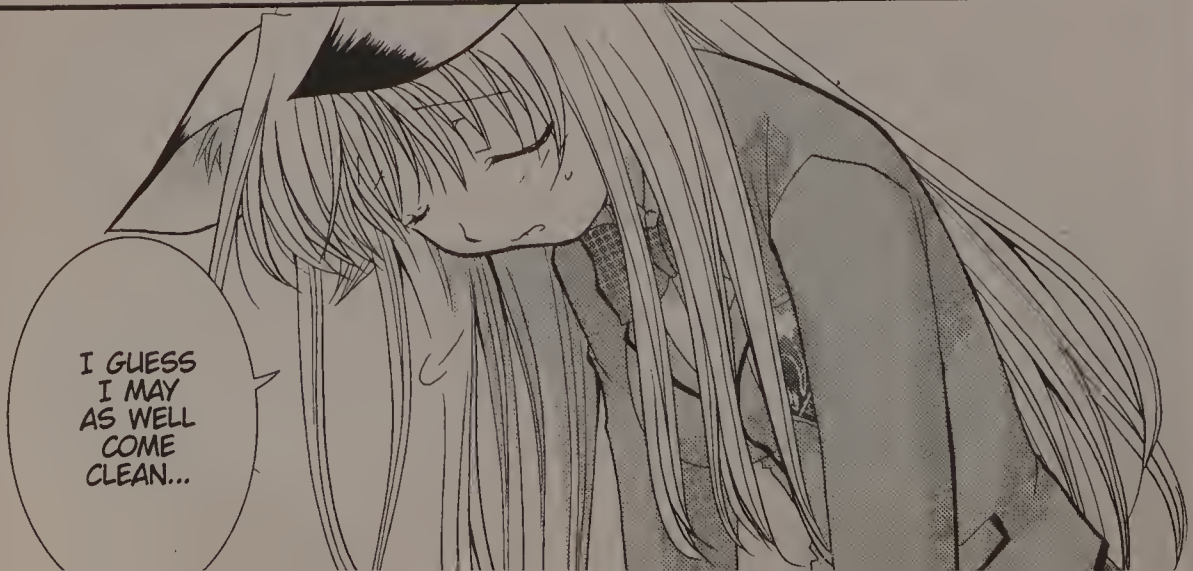
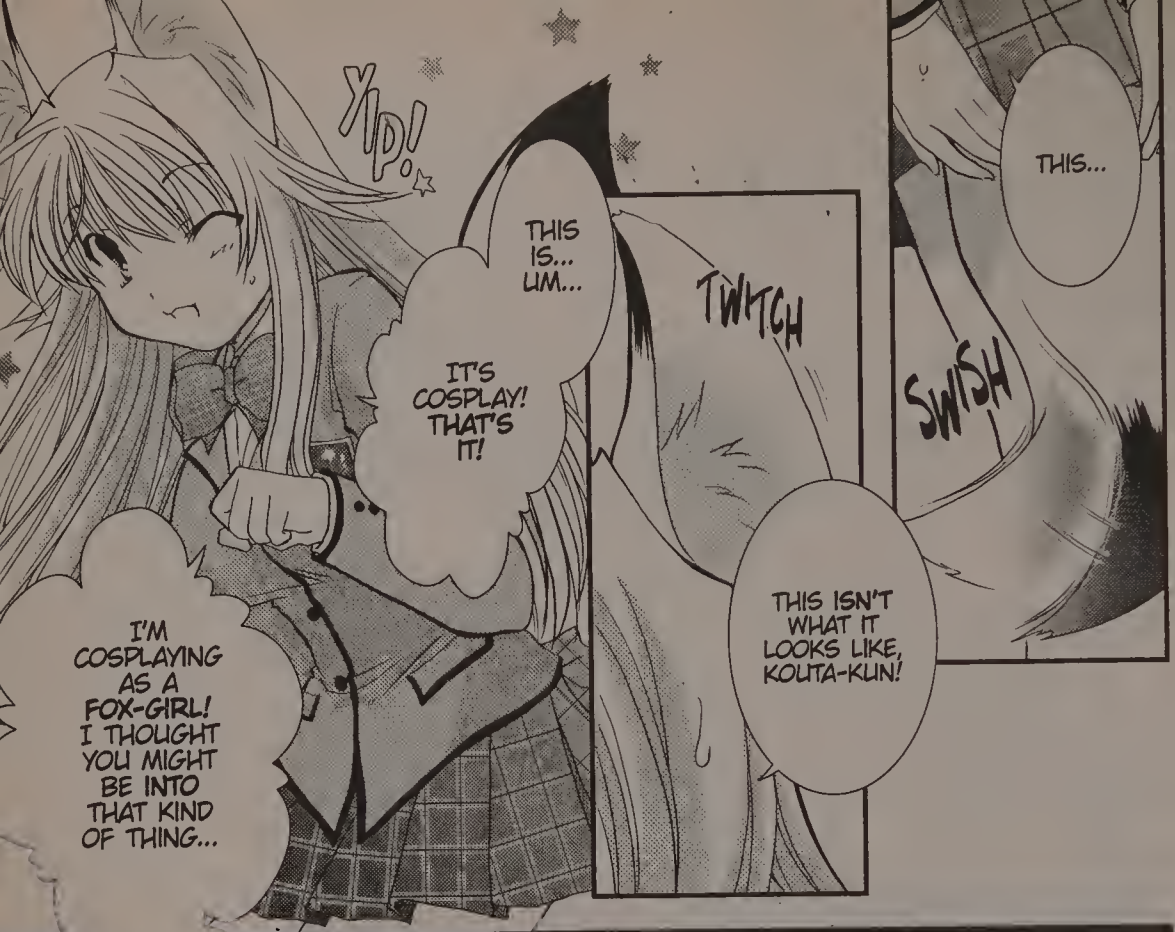
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Cheshire Cat Waltz Vol. 6

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Alice in the Country of Joker:
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Alice in the Country of Hearts:
The Mad Hatter's Late Night
Tea Party Vol. 1





WHAT'S
WRONG,
KOUTA-
KUN?

UH...

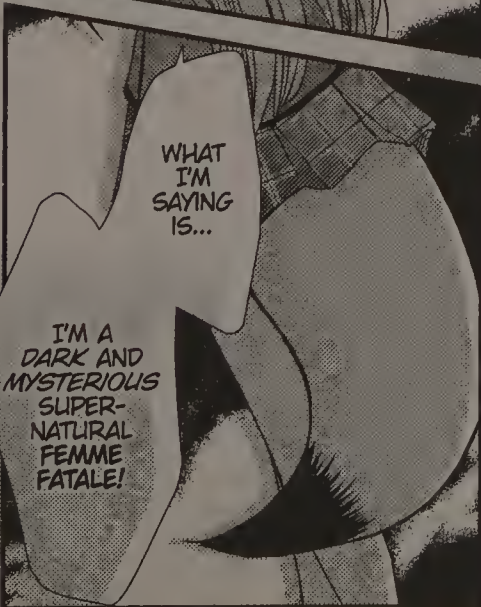
OH
CRAP!



NOT HUMAN
LIKE YOU,
KOLTA-KUN.

I'M...

AND...





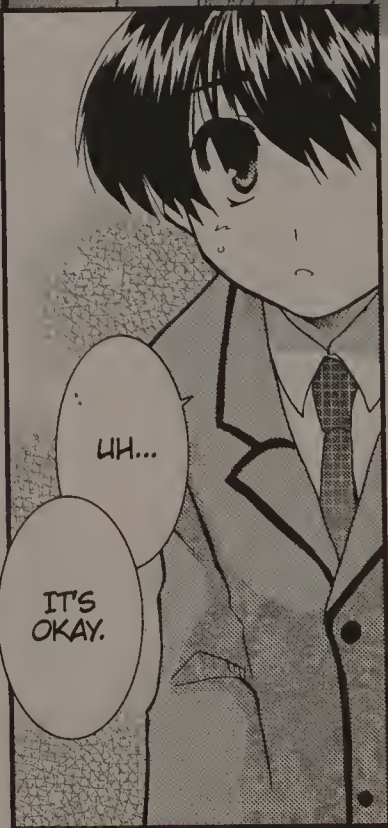
DO YOU
STILL
THINK I'M
HUMAN?

WELL,
KOLTA-
KUN?



I KNOW
I'M A
MONSTER.

I UNDER-
STAND IF
YOU WANT
TO RUN
AWAY.



UH...

IT'S
OKAY.



STARE

STILL
WHAT?
HUMAN?

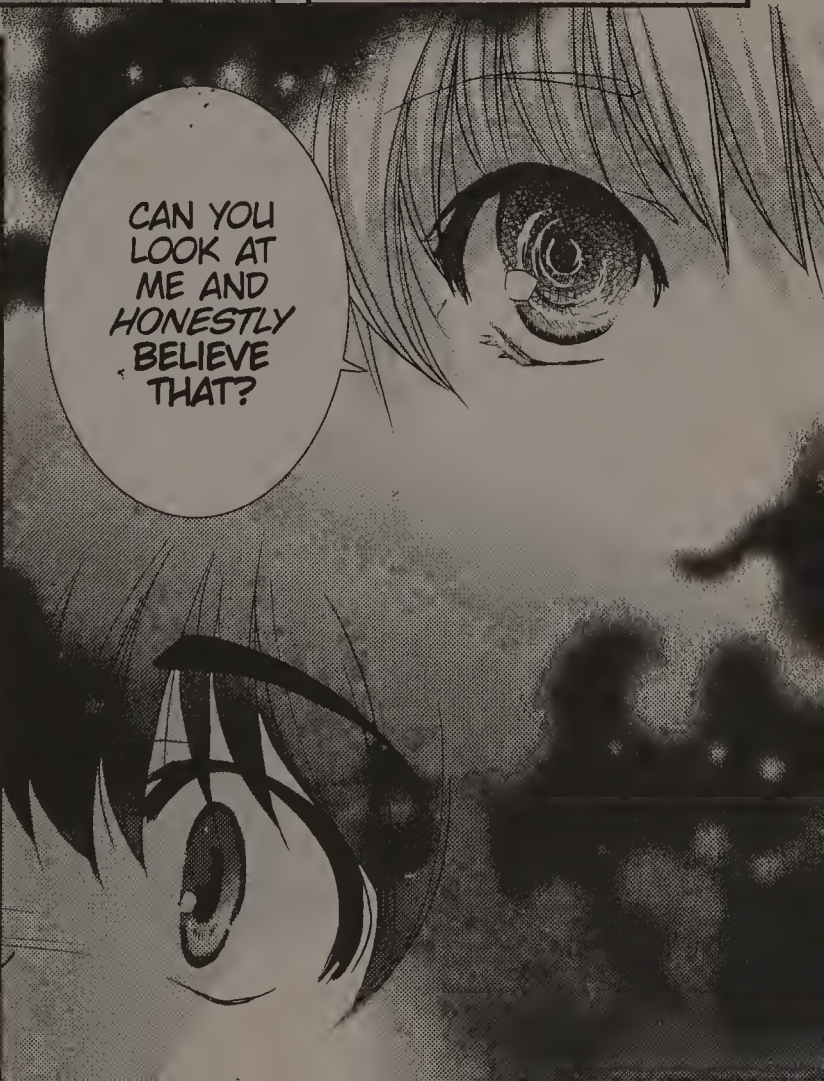


CHIZURU-
SAN...

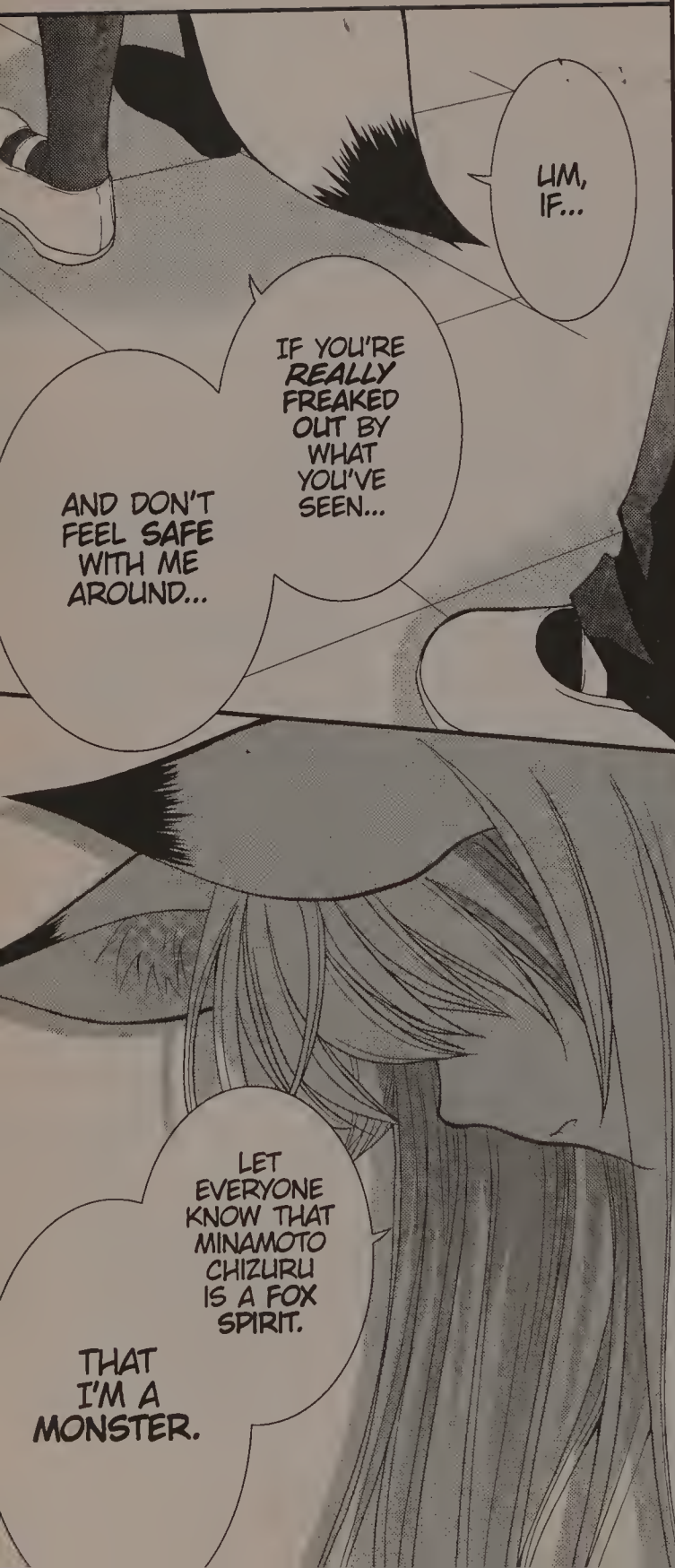
EVEN WITH
FOX EARS
AND A TAIL,
YOU'RE
STILL...



カッ
STAGGER



CAN YOU
LOOK AT
ME AND
HONESTLY
BELIEVE
THAT?



LIM,
IF...

IF YOU'RE
REALLY
FREAKED
OUT BY
WHAT
YOU'VE
SEEN...

AND DON'T
FEEL SAFE
WITH ME
AROUND...

LET
EVERYONE
KNOW THAT
MINAMOTO
CHIZURU
IS A FOX
SPIRIT.

THAT
I'M A
MONSTER.

N-
NEVER-
MIND!

I
REALLY
DO...

SHAKE

SHAKE

JUST
TELL
EVERYONE
WHAT
I AM.



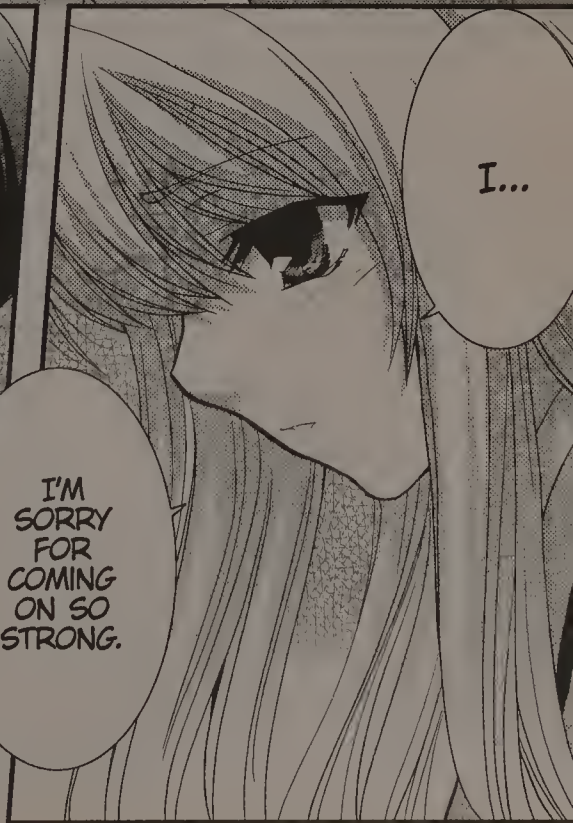
GET
OUT OF
HERE.

GO
AHEAD.



BUT JUST
FOR THE
RECORD,
KOLITA-KUN,
I...

I'M
SORRY
FOR
COMING
ON SO
STRONG.

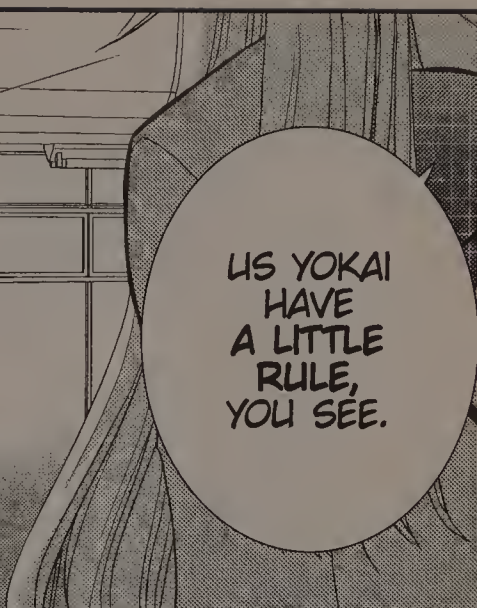


I...





IF OUR
COVER IS
BLOWN,
WE HAVE
TO LEAVE
TOWN.



US YOKAI
HAVE
A LITTLE
RULE,
YOU SEE.



YOU'LL
NEVER
HAVE TO
SEE ME
AGAIN!



S000...



YES?



IT WAS
BEAUTIFUL.

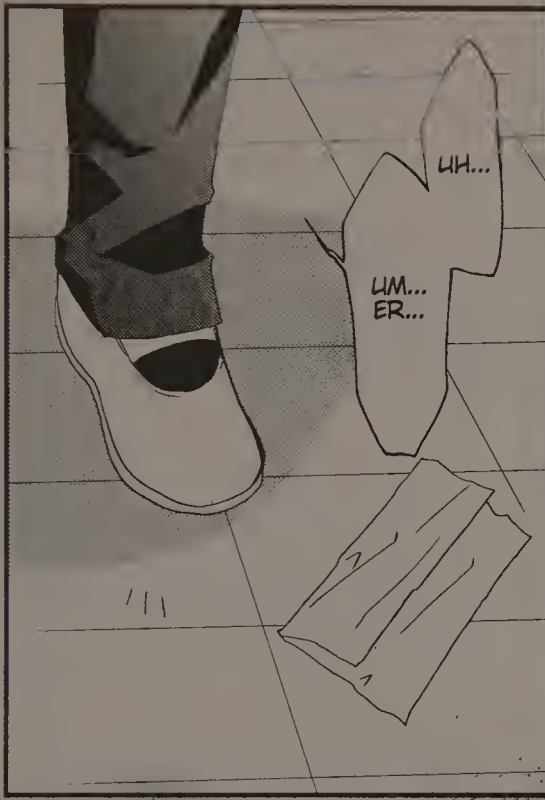
I-I
MEAN...
SURE,
I WAS
AFRAID...

WH-WHEN
YOU
CHANGED,
THAT IS...

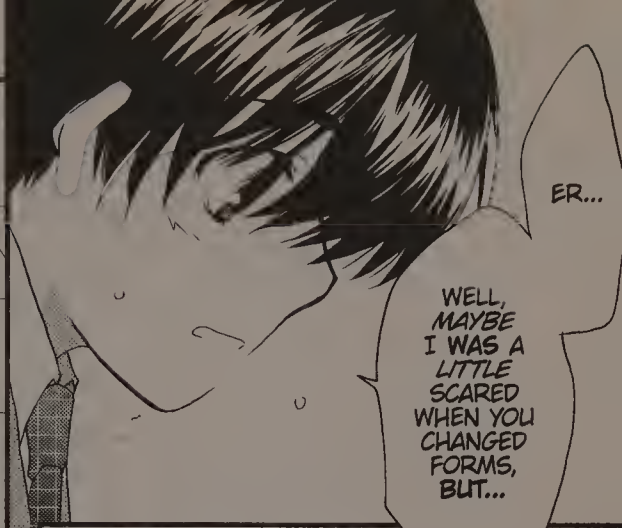


BECAUSE
YOU WERE SO
BEAUTIFUL IT
TERRIFIED
ME.

Continued in...
Kanokon Omnibus 1-2!

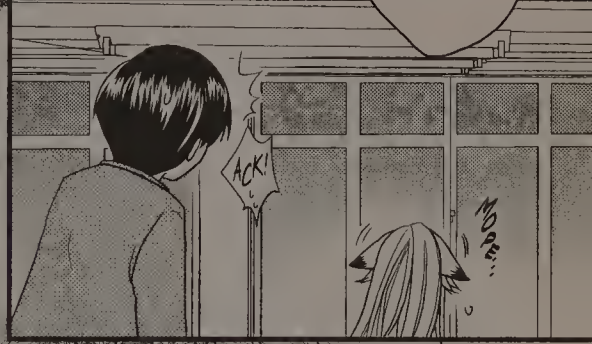


UH...
ER...



ER...

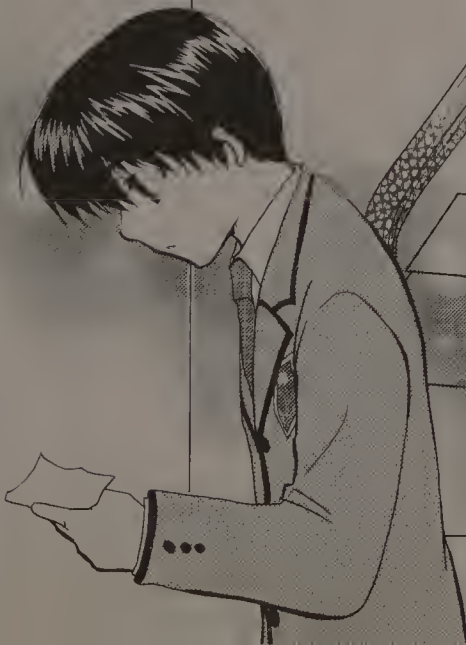
WELL,
MAYBE
I WAS A
LITTLE
SCARED
WHEN YOU
CHANGED
FORMS,
BUT...



ACK!

BOO...

PLEASE
READ
THIS!



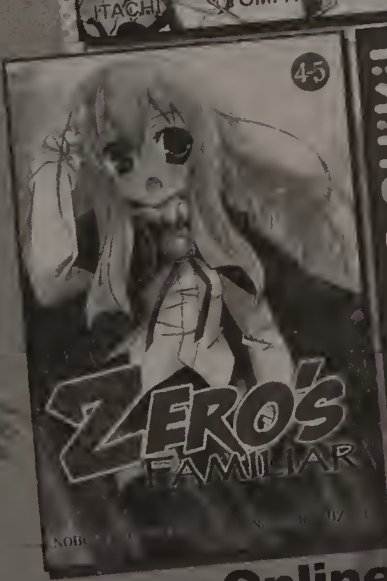
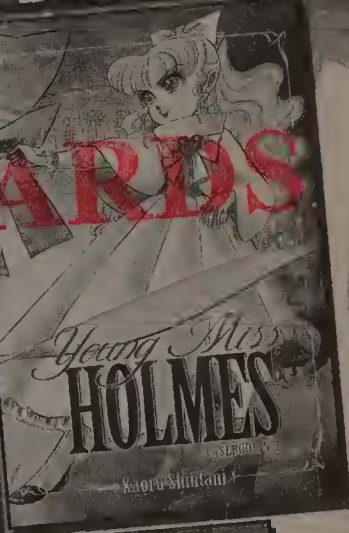
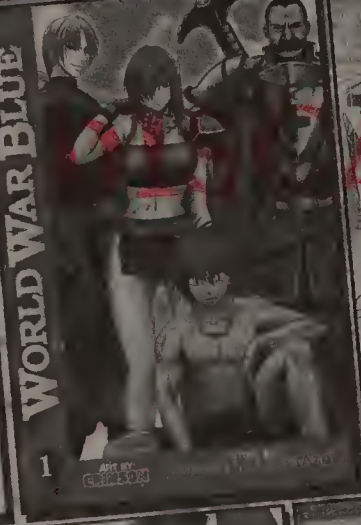
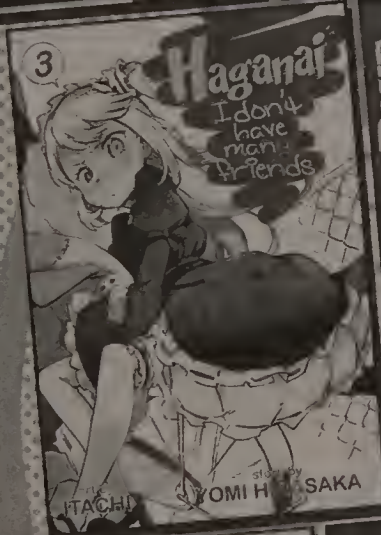
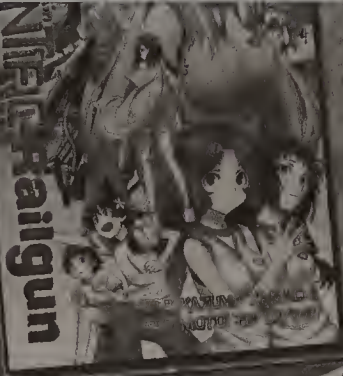
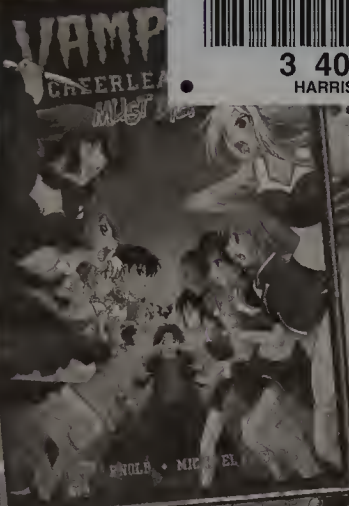
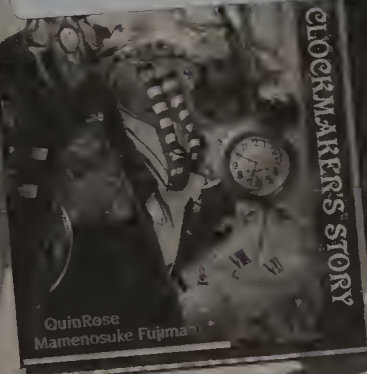
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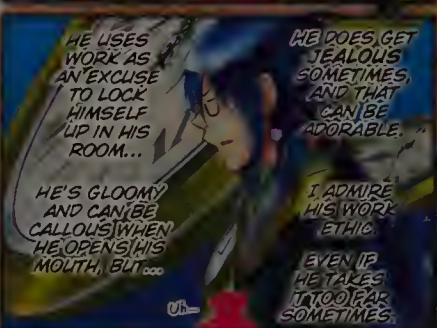
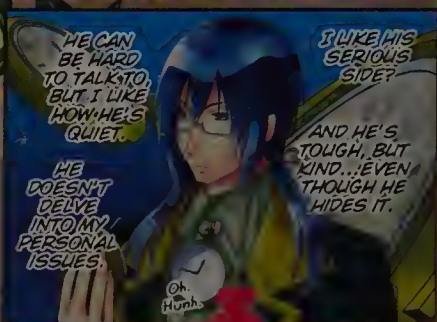


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DOSE
YOU
E?

In the Country of Hearts, Alice has started developing feelings for the angsty Clockmaker. She can see past Julius's doom and gloom to the gentle soul inside. When the path back home starts opening at last, Alice wonders if she'll be able to leave Julius when the time comes. Will she give up her world for a man who can barely voice his feelings?

Love is timeless, but even in Wonderland the clock is always ticking.



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